

But in the meantime there are great numbers of people who just don't have a chance to hear the gospel. What they do hear is off set by all this atmosphere about them. I believe it is vital that we have a solid grasp grasp on this, that when we say the Bible is God's Word, we are not talking about some abstract generalization, but we mean just about the same thing as I would say when I get a letter from my wife and I say, This is a letter from my wife; this is what she has said. The Bible is what God has said. It is God's revelation. Many nowadays give the impression that this idea of revelation is an old out-of-date mideaval idea. "We don't want revelation ; we want what we can see, touch, and handle; we're interested in science, not in revelation." I believe it is good that in helping our people to understand that in using this word revelation we're not using some strang esoteric word thaat refers to some lofty concept that doesnot have much connection with human life. Revelation in the general sense is one of the most common meanings in all life.

I'd be ready to say this: Any scientist in the world including the most brilliant has received 90% of what he knows by revelation. I would say that that the high school teacher of science has received 98% of what he knows thro revelation. If you said that to one of them, they'd be shocked, I'm sure. Because most of them would think that by revelation you mean some sort of esoteric thing that has little connection with life. Actually revelation means somebody takes a thought he has in his mind and passes it on to you so you can get an idea of the thought he has in his mind. If you would take the most brilliant scientist in the world today, and you would erase from his mind everything he received by hearing what somebody else said, or from reading something somebody else wrote he would have to start from scratch. If he developed 1% of the knowledge that he has today, I would be tremendously surprised. Communication from other personalities is one of the very most common things in life.

We cannot explain what personality is. It's a very difficult thing. The commonest thing in life is personality. Yet to explain it, we can't/ but we know it, we have contact with it, we have experience. If we can believe in other personalities who can communicate with us, there is no reason we cannot believe in a God who not only exists but who can communicate with us, and pass on to us ideas He wants us to have. I often feel that the phislophers of our day with their theories and explanationsof the universe, are many of them exactlylike a group of men who might have brilliant minds, but suppose these men in this country had never been in China, had never talked with anyone who'd ever been in China, had never read any books by anyone who had ever been in China, and suppose these man were to go up on Mt. near San Francisco and were to sit together and look out at the Pacific Ocean, and as they looked out at the clouds and sky and waves, they might say, I wonder if there's another country over there/ if there is I wonder what kind of people live in it. I wonder whether it is flat or has mountains; whether it is a dry desert or has moist humid area. I wonder whether the rivers run from N. to S. like the Mississippi or S. to N. like the Nile, or West to E. like the Columbia, or E to W like the Danube. I wonder about these things.