

of time that you're going to spend trying to get your facts accurate which is very vital and the amount of time that you are going to spend in getting the understanding of ~~of~~ the meaning of the facts. If you don't have the facts, if you don't check by the facts you're meanings are apt to be very erroneous. Shall we study the Scripture as a ~~the~~ whole or in small sections? Oh how often I go into a church and hear a minister give a marvelous sermon on some great Christian truth and tie it to a text that has nothing to do with it. Often we find men know quite a bit of Christian truth and they give ~~the~~ the truth and they look for a Scripture vs. to hang it to. And with the rank and file of people that may drive the truth home, but with the thinking person he studies the verse a little and he says That isn't in it at all, and he may turn away from some of the great Scriptural truth.

Shall we study the Scripture as a whole or in small sections? We need balance. 100 yrs ago everyone -- every nominally Christian home in America ~~had~~ read several verses of the Scripture as a family every day. Young fellows came to the Seminary with a big knowledge of the Scripture as a whole, and in Seminary they devoted themselves largely to taking small sections and studying them in the Greek and Heb. very carefully to get methods of interpretation which they should go on and apply. ~~by~~ later. But then as time went on people ceased to read the Bible at home as much. They got radio, they got TV, they had a movie down around the corner. They had ~~g~~ all kinds of ^{other} things to take up their time and attention. They ceased to read the Bible so much. They kept it up ~~on~~ on the shelf. Look at God's Word up there. That's what we believe in but they didn't spend the same time reading it, and young fellows wanting to serve the Lord came into seminary with no Bible knowledge ~~at all~~ as a whole and they only learned a few passages that they studied. And the result was that there was a movement for the English Bible. People said, We don't want just a careful study of these Heb. and Greek passages, we want Eng. Bible. Well the Bible wasn't originally written in English, and it isn't Eng. they meant. What they meant was, We want to know the Bible as a whole. They wanted to know its teachings as a group, not just a few short passages. But we must get a balance between these two approaches. We must learn to know the Bible as a whole.