

What was written in that passage was written by men who were "moved" to write just that by the Holy Ghost; some of what they wrote they could not fully comprehend themselves. We are told that they searched in themselves diligently what some of the things they wrote really meant, and it was revealed to them that they wrote them down for others who would live at a later period, even for us. So what they wrote contained thought, not of their own; they were "moved" to write thus by the Holy Ghost, and this is that Spirit of God that knoweth the deep things of God; so what they wrote contained the thought of God: the mind of God, the "Word of God!" The form of these pregnant sentences, we are persuaded, has not been altered. The words of that passage you read there still reveal what they first contained, the mind of God. And the Holy Spirit who thus moved the holy men to write these sentences, to-day prepares hearts and illuminates minds so that men may be able to apprehend the truth there indicated. That man who approaches and reads without the light of the Spirit reads in the dark, the truth there is not to be grasped by intellectual capacity of thought, it is only to be grasped and ~~seen when the Spirit gives life~~ ~~Passages that seem to the casual~~ seen when the Spirit makes it a living word. The letter always kills but the Spirit gives life. Passages that seem to the casual reader a conglomeration of history, sanitation and foolish rites and confusing rituals, can become the means of revealing the very glory of God to you - through that uninteresting hopeless jumble of apparently empty words, the Spirit can cause a light to shine what will amaze you.

And so it is possible for men to behold God through this revelation in the written Word. And so all through the centuries broke and contrite hearts, humble minds, meek and lowly spirits have reverently thumbed these pages, have read these sacred lines, have prayed for the illumination of the Spirit, and through the medium of these passages the light of truth has shined into their hearts, and they have "beheld God." Needy men and distressed women, crowded by the heavy pressure of a heartless world have cried in their hearts to God; and they have heard the Spirit say "Behold your God"- "Look at Him,- Think on Him,- gaze steadily on Him,- keep your fixed on Him;" and thus in the hidden place, the cave, the cloister, the quiet room, the lowest depths, in prison - in hospital - in desert, men have ~~looked~~ looked into the Scriptures, gazed intently on what was written, and the Holy Spirit has made these words the Living Word and they have "beheld God." Like boys, who coming close to a knot-hole can see the whole game played: like shut-in folk who close to a window can see the whole outside world: like the astronomer who holds his eye close to the telescope, can see the vast heavens unfolding before him: like the scientist who keeps his eye close to the microscope can see the minute wonders of creation, -myriads of living things in a cup of water, so have men who have approached these Scriptures and brought the eye close to them been able to see God! They have held the ear close and hearkened and heard the voice of God! They have seen the glories of the Almighty! They have beheld the beauty of holiness! They have "beheld their God." Such men have loved this book, such women have hungered for it and have kept it close at hand. On the faces of such people a radiance is beaming that makes the eyes of the world smart to behold and our hearts contract to think of. They have seen God! They have heard Him! They know Him! They have "beheld their God."