

most easy and natural explanation is, that 'all Scripture is given by inspiration of God.' In its simple and unsophisticated statements, we have an impregnable munition of rocks; and strong in this confidence, we defy, we court investigation. A contracted policy of cowardice on the one hand, or of intolerance on the other, may have gloomed on fair inquiry, and forbidden its prosecution, and deprecated its results; and all may have been presented as an acceptable offering on the altar of Christian faith. But Christianity ejects the gift from its sanctuary—disclaims the necessity and denounces the expedient. It proclaims the whole universe to be God's temple, and invites all to inquire in it, who will inquire reverently. 'Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath.' 'Stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God.' 'The works of the Lord are great; sought out of all them that take pleasure therein.' 'Walk about Zion, and go round about her; tell the towers thereof; mark ye well her bulwarks; consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generations following, for this God is our God for ever and ever.' 'Prove