Does *man* control the manner and extent to which God's revelation in Scripture is *preserved* uncorrupted, or does *God* control it? Matthew 5:18 asserts:

> For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away,
> not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the
> Law, until all is accomplished.

Does *man* control the manner and extent to which God's revelation in Scripture is *received* and spiritually *understood*, or does *God* control it? I Corinthians 2:12-15 affirms:

> Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the
> Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things
> freely given to us by God, which things we also speak,
> not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught
> by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual
> words. But a natural man does not accept the things of the
> Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him. and he
> cannot understand them, because they are spiritually
> appraised. But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet
> he himself is appraised by no man.

Now having said these things concerning God's control over the process of communication of His Word to man, we must also affirm that the biblical writers achieved their highest degree of freedom when they were under the complete control of the Spirit of God. 2 Corinthians 3:17 tells us that "where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." The biblical writers under the supernatural control of the Holy Spirit experienced tremendous freedom, not to write their own personal speculations about God, or to interpret truth according to their own bias, or to make blunders or errors in attempting to convey truth, but rather to express their personalities and personal styles while truthfully recording what God wished recorded. As Gaussen put it in his *Inspiration of the Holy Scriptures*:

> In the operations of the Holy Ghost, while causing the
> sacred books to be written, and in those of the same
> divine agent while converting a soul, and causing it to
> advance in the ways of sanctification, man is in different