of the New Testament, such as Romans and Galatians)?

(5)   To matters of faith and practice only?

(6)   To "key" or essential words only?

(7)   To every word (verbal) and to the entire content (plenary) of Scripture?

Any answer that falls short of "every word and the entire content of Scripture" again puts us into a relative position in which we need an absolute principle to enable us to distinguish between what is and what is not inspired in Scripture.

If the extent of God's guidance falls short of the very words the writer chose to express his thoughts, and of every word and thus the entire content of Scripture, then we must search for and find an absolute principle to distinguish inspired from uninspired Scripture.

In such a case, what principle of differentiation can be employed?

(1)   What seems reasonable and just?

(2)   Whatever is true?

(3)   Whatever is needful for salvation?

(4)   Whatever is normative for faith and practice?

(5)   Whatever is of value for faith?

(6)   Whatever is "Word-bearing", i.e., whatever witnesses to Christ?

(7)   Whatever is genuine *kerygma*, i.e., whatever enables me to achieve "authentic existence," i.e., become truly man?

(8)   Whatever the Spirit bears witness to?

(9)   Whatever Scripture itself claims is inspired?

And who should employ this principle of differentiation, so that we may know which Scriptures are inspired and which are not?

(1)   The Church?

(2)   A consensus of all believers?

(3)   Biblical scholars and theologians?

(4)   The individual Christian?