

Still others make a beginning, not, like the Westminster Confession, with the Bible, but rather with a particular idea of God, and maintain that from a correct idea of God all else will necessarily follow. This is very different from the approach of the Westminster Confession. There is, of course, a logical coherence in the universe. After we learn correct views about God from the Bible, we can see how these views fit together with other Biblical teachings, and with the observed facts of life. But it is questionable how ~~much~~ much coherence can safely be worked out by the human mind, without first gaining the facts from divine revelation. Sin has darkened the human intellect and it is dangerous to build our views on human reason. We must not think we can safely start with a particular idea of God. We must start where the Westminster Confession starts, with the Bible, and then get our ideas about God directly from that source.

The view of the Westminster Confession is: we have just one source of truth in religious matters, and that is the Bible. In other words, all knowledge of religious truth must come through revelation. This view has been characteristic of the Presbyterian Churches right from their foundation.

What is Revelation?

What do we mean by revelation? Is it some sort of old fashioned out-of-date idea? Is revelation a medieval concept which science has now displaced?

Such questions illustrate the present wide-spread ignorance of what revelation really is. It is not some bizarre or fantastic notion but one of the commonest facts of daily life. Revelation~~s~~ is merely communication from one personality to another. Divine revelation differs from ordinary revelation in that it comes from God rather than from another human being.

So far from being displaced by science, revelation is absolutely necessary to the progress of science. Science consists in gathering data, No man has ever been able to gather enough data in any field to build up a science all by himself. Each scientist must use many facts which others