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ROUGH DRAFT

THE SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO THE OLD TESTAMENT - II

An Extract From the Griffith-Thomas Lectures, November, 1951

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"Oh Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings and oppositions of science falsely so-called."

This statement by the Apostle Paul gives no comfort to those who would ~~divide~~ ^{separate} science and Christianity completely from one another, ~~alleging that they are entirely different,~~ and some even saying that they are opposed to each other. Paul has no objection to science. It is science falsely so-called which he criticizes.

We have noticed that a truly scientific approach to the Old Testament requires that we examine the attitude which was taken toward it by the Lord Jesus Christ, the founder of Christianity. This attitude we discovered to be one of considering it to be a revelation from God explaining ^{the} great mysteries of the origin and purpose of the universe. This idea of revelation we noticed is not something that is unscientific but on the contrary revelation is one of the most important factors in science. Without revelation little progress would be made by science, For revelation means communication from one personality to another. The reason why revelation assumes a relatively greater importance in religion than in natural science is that so much of the material relates to things that are ~~of~~ inaccessible for direct observation and examination. Consequently our ~~at~~ only source of knowledge in these matters as in all fields of science which ~~are/are/are/are/~~ deal with matters not directly accessible to us must rest upon ^a communication