

Chanel - 4/29/58 - Dr. MacRae

various fields of ancient life related to the Bible - his book on the Dead Sea Scrolls is one of the sanest compared to books I've seen on the subject - and on the other hand he's thoroughly schooled in the background of the higher criticism and trained in the belief that the Bible is largely written from a period long after the time of the events described and that the ideas of it have developed and (3.75) and so on. And so in his mind are these two forces his scientific, careful, accurate, study of this material and his presupposition and attitude of doubt and unbelief and of questioning regarding the actual proof of the epistles. In that he's somewhat like the late Professor Pfeiffer(?) of Harvard who died I think in just the last couple of weeks. Professor Pfeiffer taught Old Testament in Harvard Divinity School for many years. And about fifteen years ago the Professor of Old Testament in Crozier Theological Seminary told me that Professor Pfeiffer was speaking at their school - Baptist divinity school down near Chester - and that he wondered if some of our people would be interested in coming over and hearing him. I would very much have liked to but I was busy at that time but I told our students about it and about ten went over. And they were late to the meeting. I don't think that 's good, Faith Seminary students coming in a body late to a meeting but that's what they did that night. But they told me that as they were in the hall in back they heard Professor Pritchard introducing Dr. Pfeiffer. And Professor Pritchard said, "Dr. Pfeiffer, you will feel perfectly at home here. There is not a person here who is not thoroughly convinced of the

(5.5). I don't think he would have said that if he'd thought any of our students were there. None of them were but ten of them were. And right after that Dr. Pfeiffer

and they said it was most interesting to hear Dr. Pfeiffer give the illustrations of archaeology in relation to the Bible. And he would tell something about archaeology and some discoveries and how it threw light on something in the Bible we previously hadn't understood and thought were myths or legends. We couldn't think they would correspond to any true facts and then we found exactly described. And then he took another one and they said through the whole evening Professor Pfeiffer went on taking one thing after another which just exactly fit with the Bible as it stands. And then when he finished