

Evolution #7

But Huxley talked at great length with Darwin, and Darwin gave him his theories and Huxley said, "I don't believe a word of it." And Darwin wrote his book and he showed Huxley the manuscript. And Huxley read the manuscript, and he said, "I don't believe it." But ^{when} Huxley was a ~~man who was~~ ^{he} young fellow, had attended churches where there were dead orthodox preachers who gave long, long tedious sermons expounding some minor point of theology, and Huxley got so sick of it he said, "A bishop can never be right on anything." And he was bitterly anti-Christian. And when Darwin's book came out, and all of the leaders of dead orthodoxy of the country, people who held to the wording of the Bible but didn't show the power of it in their lives, began attacking Darwin, Huxley said he reread the book in prison and he saw it was ~~all~~ all true - when before it had sounded to him imaginary (imaginary) --entirely false. And he said he was only convinced after he saw the book. Well, there may be very psychological things which entered into his change; I don't know. But Huxley went out and debated about it, and presented it, and it was Huxley's efforts that made it acceptable. And right here, it was Huxley's tying up Darwin's theory with the ideals of justice, of righteousness, of fairness, which people ~~had~~ had derived from the Bible, and using it against those who held to the wording of the Bible, that made the big change. There was a big debate in Oxford. And they invited Huxley to come to this meeting; they invited Darwin, and he never went anywhere hardly; he always let Huxley go. And Huxley went. And Huxley was there at the debate. And there was a very learned bishop, very learned, outstanding debater and speaker, but he didn't know much about science. But he picked up a little knowledge of science, and started in to show scientifically that Darwin was wrong, when he wasn't competent to deal properly with it. And then, after he finished it, this attack which was not a well worked out attack actually; he had gotten a good scientist to give him some ideas but he really didn't have the background to understand them properly; He ended up by saying, "I would like to ask Mr. Huxley here, was it through your mother or through your father that you are descended from a monkey?" And everybody laughed, of course. And Huxley