

This is particularly true in historical matters, such as those with which the theory of evolution deals. The making of a diagram in the form of a tree or shrub or whatever else may fit the known facts best, to show the similarities of various animals and plants, is a useful help in advancing knowledge in these fields. To insist that such a diagram represents a hereditary background or a genetic relationship involves going beyond the evidence into the field of history and should always be labeled as merely a guess.

ALSO IN BIBLE STUDY

The same warning should be applied to Bible study. God has not given us a complete record of all the facts involved in the creation of His universe, or in its present constitution. That was not His purpose. He has not given us a complete picture of human psychology, or a complete explanation of the great matters of eternal destiny. To handle any one of these matters fully would have necessitated the writing of a book longer than the whole of several great encyclopedias. God has chosen to give us in the Bible certain facts that are helpful in enabling us to realize our condition of being lost in sin, deserving nothing good at His hands, and headed for eternal destruction. He has also given material sufficient to show us how we can find salvation through His marvelous grace, and how we can learn to grow in the Christian life. The Bible touches on many other subjects, and we can safely accept anything that it clearly teaches. There are thousands of matters in which we might be interested, on which the Bible gives us either a tiny inkling or no information at all. In all such questions the proper attitude for the Christian is to admit his ignorance.

In taking up any question in the Bible, as in science, we should look not for two alternatives but for three. We should ask: (1) Is the evidence sufficient to show that the Word of God definitely teaches this? (2) Is the