

STUDY III

THE BIBLE AS A DIVINE REVELATION VIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF REASON

- (1) What is the influence of the Bible, as recognized by its enemies? And what injury has the grand old Book often suffered at the hands of its staunchest friends? Page 37, par. 1.
- (2) What is the claim of the Bible? Page 37, par. 2.
- (3) How old is the Bible, and what do the facts of its remarkable preservation indicate? Page 38, par. 1.
- (4) What is the moral influence of the Bible, and how must it be used by those who would enjoy its richest treasures? Page 38, par. 2.
- (5) Who is the most prominent character constantly referred to throughout the Bible? Page 39, par. 1.
- (6) What does the existence of any book imply? And what motives only could be reasonably attributed to the writers of the New Testament? Page 39, par. 2.; page 40, par. 1.
- (7) What was the character of the writers of the Old Testament? And what does the straightforwardness of the Bible indicate? Page 41, par. 1.
- (8) Having conceded that the Bible was written by men whose motives were apparently pure, what would logically be the next step in our examination of the Bible? Page 41, par. 2.
- (9) Would it require a special revelation to simply narrate the facts contained in the first five books of the New Testament and several of the Old Testament? Upon what does the credibility of such writings depend? Page 41, par. 3.
- (10) Does it in any way invalidate the credibility of certain portions of the Hebrew Scriptures to say that they were simply truthful records of events of the period in which the writers lived? And what was the evident importance of carefully recording certain facts of history considered indelicate at the present time? Page 42, par. 1.
- (11) While there are other portions of the Scriptures similar in character, can it be said that the Bible anywhere countenances impurity? Page 43, par. 1.

THE BOOKS OF MOSES

AND THE LAWS THEREIN PROMULGATED

- (12) What are the "Books of Moses," and what proofs have we that they were or were not written by Moses? Page 43, par. 2.
- (13) How does the Genesis account of creation compare with that of other nations, and what is the reasonable conclusion respecting Moses as its author? Page 44, par. 1.
- (14) What can be said in general about the Laws of Moses? Page 44, par. 2.
- (15) What is the "Decalogue"? For what purpose were the Ten Commandments given, and how were they epitomized by Jesus? Page 45, par. 1.
- (16) What were the peculiarities of the government established by Moses? Did this arrangement give opportunity for the priesthood to impose upon the people? Page 45, par. 2.
- (17) Who was the chief one in authority under this government? Was Israel's government a democracy or a theocracy? Page 46, par. 1.
- (18) How did Moses' example in conducting the government tend to cultivate in the people the spirit of liberty? Page 47, par. 1.
- (19) Give a concise definition of Israel's government. How long did it last, and under what conditions was it changed into a kingdom? Page 48, par. 1.
- (20) Explain the custom of the tribal division in Israel. Page 48, par. 2.
- (21) What were the instructions given to the civil rulers under this government? Page 49, par. 1, 2.
- (22) Did the Laws of Moses favor the rich to the disadvantage of the poor? What was the provision of the Jubilee Year? Page 49, par. 3.
- (23) What safeguards were provided to prevent tampering with the rights of the people? And what was the duty of the priests towards the poor and unlearned? Page 50, par. 1.
- (24) What provision for the rights of foreigners and enemies was made by the Mosaic Law? Page 50, par. 2 to 5.
- (25) Were even the dumb animals neglected by the laws of Moses? Page 51, par. 1.

(26) Was the position of the priesthood a specially favored one in Israel? How were the Levites supported? Page 51, par. 2, 3; page 52, par. 1.

(27) Do any of the foregoing arrangements savor of priestcraft? Page 52, par. 2.

(28) Was there any special provision for reverencing the priesthood? How does this peculiarity contrast with the laws respecting other classes of persons? Page 52, par. 3.

(29) What can be said of the sanitary arrangements of the Mosaic Law? Page 53, par. 1.

(30) What is the only reasonable conclusion respecting Moses' claim to have received these laws from God Himself? Page 53, par. 2.

THE PROPHETS OF THE BIBLE

(31) Were the prophets of the Bible from the priestly class? What was the burden of their messages? And what does the term prophet signify? Page 54, par. 1; page 55, par. 1.

(32) What were the characteristics of the class of prophets specially commissioned by the Lord? Page 55, par. 2, 3.

(33) If we find a common bond of union between the Law and the prophets and the New Testament writers, what must be our conclusion respecting their claims? Page 56, par. 1.

(34) Explain how this one plan, spirit, aim and purpose pervades the entire Bible. Page 56, par. 2.

(35) Is the Bible merely a collection of moral precepts, wise maxims and words of comfort? Page 57, par. 1.

(36) How is the teaching of Genesis respecting the trial, condemnation and ultimate redemption of the human race elaborated throughout the prophetic writings of the Old Testament? Quote from memory various prophecies regarding the Redeemer. Page 57, par. 2.

(37) What was the work of the New Testament writers as respects the Plan of Redemption? Page 58, par. 1.

(38) What was the double teaching of Moses in the Law respecting a sacrifice and a blessing to follow? Page 58, par. 2.

(39) What was the claim of the New Testament writers respecting their ability to realize the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies? Page 59, par. 1,2.

(40) What is the glorious theme of all the prophets? Page 59, par. 3.

(41) How has this hope of the Kingdom affected the faithful people of God? Page 59, par. 4.

(42) What is the special doctrine of the Bible found nowhere else, and in opposition to the theory of all the heathen religions? Page 60, par. 1.

(43) While composed of many parts, a harmonious whole, are there any useless or unnecessary features in the Bible? What would be the result of eliminating or discrediting the miracles, a popular proceeding at the present time? Mention the miracles of the Old Testament referred to by our Lord and the writers of the New Testament. Page 60, par. 2.

(44) How do these miracles find their parallels in our everyday experiences and are thus made to appear not unreasonable? Page 62, par. 1.

(45) Give a resume of the steps which lead us to conclude that the Bible is a divinely inspired revelation, and not the mere device of ordinary men. Page 62, par. 2; Page 63, par. 1.