

University of Notre Dame
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Triumphs of Scholarship.

Triumph No. 1. Unfettered by Papal restraints, German Protestants have discovered the true origin and meaning of the Psalms. Blue-eyed, blond-headed, patriotic Aryans wrote the Psalms. But cunning Hebrews laid hold of them and mankind has labored ever since under the delusion that the Psalms were products of the Jewish race.

Words like Zion and Jerusalem appear instead of the hills of Germany and Berlin. There you have the proof. All that remains now is for scientific, patient German scholars to prune the Psalms of Semitic influences. That job will probably be finished in a week or two.

Triumph No. 2. Unfettered by Papal restraints, the head of the graduate school of education at Northwestern University sent questionnaires to many hundreds of Protestant ministers. Replies come from 1039 of them. For 54% of these ministers there is no devil, but 60% hold to the fact of angels; 80% vote against Hell "as a place of burning"; 26% are not for the divinity of Christ.

And that just about settles the case, so far as these Protestants are concerned, for Hell and the Devil and even the divinity of Christ.

Triumph No. 3. Unfettered by Papal restraints, gray-bearded Wm. F. Davis, Professor Emeritus of Geology at Harvard, explores "The Reverent Science" of Christianity, -- Christianity free from myth, miracles and other unscientific views.

"Reverend Science", according to Professor Davis, "accepts without asking to know, whatever fate is in store for us after death, be it immortality or annihilation, in the complete trust that it is a fate fitting the part we have to play in the unfathomable mystery of existence."

"Reverend Science" is much concerned, we are told, with making our life on earth as good, as unselfish, and as livable to others as possible, "not in order to receive posthumous rewards for doing so, or in fear of posthumous punishment for not doing so, but in the convinced belief, based on long human experience, that in a life so conducted man finds his highest and deepest satisfactions and his fewest regrets."

The Harvard savant seems to go to the point most directly. Religion is not at all a matter of fact. It is altogether a matter of choosing (or inventing) those beliefs that are most consoling, as a majority of the Protestant ministers accept the angels but vote the devil out of existence.

Believe what you want to believe; which, of course, gets down to this, Do what you want to do.

Old foggy ideas such as a God imposing His will upon men, a God-man who laid down a system of life to be followed to gain Heaven and avoid Hell -- tut tut.

Ultra-modern, stream-lined Christianity won't stand for that. That was all right when minds were fettered by Papal authority. But not in this great day of liberation, of emancipation, of advanced scholarship.

We're coming to this it seems: to find out whether George Washington really lived we'll forget about arguments from history and canvass the citizens instead. Or at least we'll all agree not to raise the question and believe what we want to believe.

This is the only way of getting places, it seems, when advanced scholarship has its say.
PRAYERS: Ill - a friend. Five special intentions.