

Christian to all who have doubts as to the historicity of these stories.

He begins by attacking my right to have an opinion on the subject at all. How can a mere biologist, he asks, who has read only one or two books on the subject presume to express a judgement on such a question. I was not aware that Professor Kirkpatrick was acquainted with the extent of my reading on a subject which has been near to my heart for the last ten or twelve years ; but let that pass. A mere biologist is commanded by theologians of Professor Kirkpatrick's school to believe in certain alleged historic facts on peril of his eternal salvation. He respectfully claims the right to examine those facts for himself, and it cannot be denied that they are now-a-days just as accessible to him as they are to Professor Kirkpatrick. On the mere question of language he willingly submits to the judgement of experts, though I personally have not found that the comprehension of New Testament Greek makes any extravagant demands on the resources accumulated by an early classical education. Most of the arguments do turn on questions of Greek ; they are just as valid if they are based on the words of the English authorized version, and on such arguments a biologist refuses to surrender his judgement even to Professor Kirkpatrick. Passing now to the specific points of disagreement between Professor Kirkpatrick and myself, I am told that there is no trace either in the life of Christ or of his immediate followers of a Christianity in which the person of Christ himself was not the supremely important thing. Now all historians are agreed that Christ did teach with authority and regarded himself as the inspired teacher sent by God whom it was the duty of all to hear and obey ; but he expected those to whom he addressed himself to recognize this and to obey because of the self-evidencing character of the truth he taught. This is exactly what I tried to say, when I spoke of "Eternal truth shining through Christ." But that Christ regarded himself in the Pauline sense as the supreme sacrifice for the sin of the whole world there is no evidence,