

these peoples, and the process one of deterioration? And why did not the course of history in the Bible run in the same way? Why? Simply because God was at the heart of the Bible record, working out His great purpose of grace to man. Further, the teaching of the Bible is not for one race, but for all, for all peoples, for all times. The universality and vitality of the Bible are marked features. It is "the Word of God, that liveth and abideth forever."

III. Because the Christian religion alone deals with the great facts of human consciousness with sin and its consequences. It must, therefore, become the religion for all men—for all have sinned. It is a fair test question to put to any religion. How does it deal with sin? Christianity alone probes to the bottom this great sore of humanity. Christianity alone brings healing. Joseph Cook puts this in his own dramatic way: Enter Lady Macbeth, rubbing her hands. "Out, out, damned spot. Will these hands never be clean? All the perfumes of Arabia could not sweeten this little hand." What religion can wash Lady Macbeth's right hand? That is the question I propose to the four continents. Can Mohanmedanism? Can Buddhism? Can Confucionism? Can Parseeism? Christianity alone deals with and does away with sin. Christianity alone pours in the healing balsam into this death wound. Christianity alone has a Redeemer and a redemption from sin. Christianity alone, therefore, can be the universal religion for a sinning and condemned world. There is only one Saviour of the world. In Him is harmony restored between God and man. The whole Christian system culminates in one word—reconciliation.

IV. Another reason why we see in Christianity the supreme universal religion is this: In all other religions we see limitations and seeds of sure decay. Christianity is unlimited in its expansiveness. Christianity is unfailing in its vitality, because it unfolds from a living germ. It has life from a living head. The only other religions that may be named at all in the comparison are Buddhism and Mohammedanism. Kuenen's remarks in this connection are suggestive: "If we review the three religions of the world, noting not