

RELIGION AS FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

of his actions. These would serve as guides to their children, but could never take the place of living fellowship with him. As they came to know the man as he really was, they would see that the statements which had come to them about him were of value not for their literal accuracy, nor for their minute agreement one with another, but for the faithful picture they contained of the living person they had come to know, first through them, then through their own experience.

Something like this is what has occurred in the Bible. When God would reveal Himself to men He did not sit down and dictate certain words to them which contained all they ought to or could know about Him. If He had intended to withdraw Himself from them, or feared He would lose the power of living, active fellowship with them at a later day, this would have been the only reason for such a course. What He did was to live among them as friend with friend. It is said of Enoch that he walked with God, and Abraham is called "the Friend of God." To these men He appeared, and by His actions more than by His words, revealed what He was and what He wanted them to