

I suppose, would be answered by the statement that it contains more moral force, more of the material of which character is made, than other parts of the Bible.

I am not aware, however, that any attempt has been made to classify the contents of the Word of God in respect to their relative value as vessels containing truth; or, in other words, I am not aware that anyone has sought to state the proportion of truth found in the different vessels held out to us by the hand of inspiration.

A little reflection will show us that the truth of God is revealed to us by two methods in the Bible. We will see that God reveals Himself through divine intervention in the history of chosen individuals and of a chosen nation. This kind of revelation necessarily bears marks of an evolution of truth conditioned by the moral obtuseness of those who were the subjects of God's care.

But we will also see that the Divine Being has revealed Himself to the consciousness of the individual prophet by special inspiration for the comfort and stimulation of the people. Here I am bound to say the theory of evolution, however constructed, breaks down, for in the confessedly earliest writers there is as deep insight into the nature of God, and as profound a realization of the purity and holiness of the divine law, as in any part of the Old Testament.

But laying this distinction aside, let us classify the contents of the Bible according to what we will venture to call their face value, studying it by cross sections, so to speak. Standing first in value as the very core of saving truth we have such a far-reaching and affecting statement as "God is love." This has a direct force and bearing upon our moral nature. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son," etc. This application of the fact already stated is also truth of the highest order, because it links man and God together, and, when received, results in a mighty and marvellous moral uplift.

Next in order we may place such conceptions of truth as come to us in the parables, for instance. The special interest of the parable is its form. It mediates between the mind and soul, and deepens the impression made upon our nature by