

of Satan amid the sons of God holding converse with Jehovah, the poetry in which Job and his friends discuss the mysteries of life; and if we are told that the study of Eastern poetry forces the belief that this is not all to be taken as literal fact, but as a poetical play founded on the patriarch's life, a dramatic setting for "The Mystery of Suffering," does it not give a beautiful reasonableness to the book? Could the Holy Ghost not teach men then by fiction and drama as our Saviour did later by the fiction of the Prodigal Son and the dramatic presentation of Dives and Lazarus?

VII.

A Reasonable Attitude.

This, then, is the attitude we must adopt towards the Higher Criticism. Every fact that it can reasonably establish—mark the word *establish*, not merely assert or conjecture—must be loyally, nay, gratefully received. For all truth is from God, and can never ultimately lead to anything but good. We must not "presumptuously stake the inspiration or the Divine authority of the Old Testament on any foregone conclusion as to the method and shape in which the records have come down to us." We must be willing to listen candidly to all the evidence brought