

forth in our Bible that a sinless man was made sin. All I now contend for is that it stands alone; that it is not to be matched by the shade of a shadow of a similar declaration in any other book claiming to be the exponent of the doctrine of any other religion in the world.

Once again, ye youthful students of the so-called Sacred Books of the East, search them through and through, and tell me, do they affirm of Zoroaster, of Confucius, of Buddha, of Muhammad, what our Bible affirms of the Founder of Christianity—that He, a dead and buried man, was made Life? “I am the Life.” “When Christ, who is our Life, shall appear.” “He that hath the Son hath Life.”

Again, I say, I am not now presuming to interpret so marvellous a statement. All I contend for is that it is absolutely unique; and I defy you to produce the shade of a shadow of a similar declaration in any other sacred book of the world. And bear in mind that these two unparalled declarations are indissolubly connected with the great central doctrines of our religion—the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, the Ascension of Christ. Vyasa, Zoroaster, Confucius, Buddha, Muhammad, are all dead and buried; and their bones have crumbled into dust; their flesh is dissolved, their bodies are extinct. Even their followers admit this.

Christianity alone commemorates the passing into the heavens of its divine Founder, not merely in the spirit, but in the body, and “with flesh, bones, and all things appertaining to the perfection of man’s nature,” to be the eternal source of life to His people. It requires some courage to appear

intolerant in these days of flabby compromise, and milk-and-water concession, but I contend that the two unparalleled declarations quoted by me from our Holy Bible make a gulf between it and the so-called Sacred Books of the East which sever the one from the other utterly, and forever; not a mere rift across which the Christian and the non-Christian may shake hands and interchange similar ideas in regard to essential truths, but a veritable gulf which cannot be bridged over by any science of religious thought. Yes, a bridgeless chasm which no theory of Evolution can ever span.

Go forth then, ye missionaries, in your Master’s name; go forth, and fearlessly proclaim the plain, the unchangeable, the eternal facts of the Gospel—nay, I might almost say the stubborn, the unyielding, the inexorable facts of the Gospel. Dare to be downright with all the uncompromising courage of your own Bible, while with it your watchwords are love, joy, peace, reconciliation.

Let it be made absolutely clear that Christianity cannot, must not be watered down to suit the palate of either Hindu, Buddhist, or Muhammadan, and that whosoever wishes to pass from the false religion to the true can never hope to do so by the rickety planks of compromise, or by help of faltering hands held out by half-and-half Christians. He must leap the gulf in faith, and the living Christ will spread His everlasting arms beneath, and land him safely on the Eternal Rock.—SIR MONIER WILLIAMS.

---

Our present portion is the Father’s love, the Saviour’s grace, and the joy of the Holy Ghost.