

The "Fall of Man" is also disproved, for science clearly shows man never fell.

Many of the miracles are difficult to believe, such as casting devils out of men into swine. They are plainly legendary.

The four chief documents of the New Testament—the Gospels—were selected out of a host of contradictory and forged manuscripts of the first three centuries after Christ by the three hundred and eighteen bishops who assembled at the Council of Nicæa in A.D. 327. The entire list of gospels numbered forty. According to the Synodicon of Pappus, the contending bishops put all the books underneath the altar, and prayed that the apocryphal books of human origin might remain there, and the genuine, inspired books might be miraculously placed on the table of the Lord. And that, says tradition, really occurred!

Many will look with consternation upon the decay of old beliefs. This is inevitable. Still, only good will be the result. That which was best of the old system will remain. This is the principle of love of man towards man. The systems of theology which gathered about Christianity tended to hide its best features. Christianity makes exaggerated claims. For while it has fought the advance of Science at every step, even with persecution and bloodshed it now turns round, and claims for Christian civilization the very things that in large measure were introduced by science. It is not true that the advancement of Western civilization is due to Christianity. This is only partly true. Still, it is undeniable that Christianity has done much for man. But a close study of it will show that the good has been chiefly in the spiritual life developed from the brotherhood teaching of Christ and not in the whole system of doctrines established.