

clearly could not be subserved by His giving evidence that would carry conviction to the minds of all men indiscriminately?

I trust I have not given undue prominence to the objection above referred to. I think prominence should be given to it, because, though it is in arrogant opposition to the wisdom of God, and is in itself altogether unreasonable, there are very many who, on the ground of it, consider themselves justified in paying no attention to the claims of religion. This leads me to remark that, as a matter of fact, almost all who reject the teaching of Christ do so on the ground of *objections*, without any thought of their obligation to give serious attention to the evidence which is fully sufficient to prove its divinity. In view of this fact, an obvious suggestion is, that it is of importance both that the minds of our people should as much, and, I would add, as early as possible, become more or less familiar with the evidences of Christianity in their principles and outlines, if not in detail; and that they should be strongly impressed with the conviction that it is at once unreasonable and *morally wrong* for a man to attach weight to objections, while his mind is perhaps a perfect blank or little more in relation to the evidences. Objections, reiterated after having been sufficiently met hundreds of times, will have comparatively little power to unsettle and perplex the mind of one who has, in some good measure, taken in the force of the Christian evidences; especially if he has been timeously impressed with the belief that many of these objections will lose all their force with his advance in knowledge, and with the conviction that the difficulties involved in others are necessarily incapable of solution by us, owing to the limited nature of our capacity in relation to the things of God, and that similar difficulties present themselves in connection with other departments of human knowledge, notwithstanding the great progress that has been made in them. I cannot well imagine how any candid mind, that is impressed with the immense strength of the Christian evidences, can be shaken in its conviction of the divinity of Christ's teaching by any or all of the objections that are brought against it. It will easily be made to appear to such a mind that the proof of the divinity of Christ's teaching cannot be set aside without discrediting all history and making it impossible, and without withdrawing all confidence from every universally-trusted record of ancient times, not one of which has come down to us with a hundredth part of the evidence we have for the purity, genuineness, and authenticity of some of the Christian records.

It is not in accordance with the design of this paper that I should go into details in dealing with objections, whether moral, historical, or scientific. That must be left to the judgment of