

his bodily resurrection from a tomb in a certain rock, and the visible ascent of his body from the earth's surface. It's the same story over again. For these, as we know, the sole documentary evidences are the various accounts of them in the narratives of the New Testament; and with these narratives of the New Testament criticism has dealt as it did with those of the Old. In especial it shows that the accounts of the events we are now considering—the very hall-marks of Christ's divinity—are pious additions tacked on to the original memoirs, and additions which, regarded as evidence, hopelessly contradict one another. But, good gracious! what am I talking about? As this fact was urged on us yesterday by a dignitary of the English Church, it is surely unnecessary for me to say much more about it. The upshot of it all is this. The documentary evidence for the events has lost all its old force; and we are left again to face Mrs. Vernon's question of whether they may not be true, though the Biblical evidence for them is defective. We can then, only fall back on our judgment of what is probable; and if the world rejects, as it does reject, the fall of the old Adam as a fable, we have Dr. Pusey's word for it—and a very true word it is—that the miraculous stories of the new Adam, of his birth, his resurrection, and his ascension, must at once be rejected as fables also. Here," said Glanville, "in its now familiar outlines, is the most obvious of the world's reasons for disbelieving in traditional Christianity—the reason which arises directly out of our new knowledge of the Bible. But there are two others, distinct from this though connected with it, and, I think, on the whole, more powerful."

"Yes," said Lady Snowdon; "let us hear them."

"One," said Glanville, "is our new knowledge, not of the Bible but of the other religious books, and the other great religions of mankind. In these books and in these religions, instead of finding only nonsense, degradation, and darkness, we find much that is common with the loftiest ideas of Christianity; and when we consider that these other great religions had been lifting the hearts of millions before Yahveh spoke to his