

It will be convenient to start with the last lecture of the series, because it contains the practical conclusion of the whole matter. A contrast is drawn between those religions which have and those which have not "sacred books," not always to the advantage of the former. "There is no religion in the whole world which in simplicity, in purity of purpose, in charity and true humanity, comes near to that religion which Christ taught to His disciples ;" yet Christianity is only *primus inter pares*. Current unbelief is traced to "the neglect of our foundations, the disregard of our own bookless religion, the almost disdain of Natural Religion." If we inquire, What *is* Natural Religion? we are taught by a Blackfoot Indian that it is "that religion which is in the head and in the heart, and in the sky, the rocks, the rivers, and the mountains." Again, "It is that light which lighteth *every* man, and which has lighted all the religions of the world, call them bookless or literate, human or Divine, natural or supernatural, which alone can dispel the darkness of doubt and fear that has come over the world. What our age wants more than anything else is *Natural Religion*. Whatever meaning different theologians may attach to *Supernatural Religion*, history teaches us that nothing is so natural as the supernatural. But the Supernatural must always be *super-imposed* on the Natural. Supernatural Religion without Natural Religion is a house built on sand."

Indubitably there are elements of truth in this putting of the case, as every reader of *Butler's Analogy* knows. It may possibly be that Christian theologians have not been sufficiently ready to acknowledge that God hath not left Himself without a witness in any nation under heaven. They may not have appreciated the full force of the Apostolic declaration, "the invisible things of Him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even His everlasting power and divinity." The absence of capacity for religion, of the instinctive feeling after God if haply men might find Him would, of course, render religion impossible. Revelation could not be made to creatures incapable of receiving it. In that sense, assuredly