T   5

he wished to become like God and was thrust out of Eden, lest he should
eat of the tree of life and live forever.   Adapa was already a live man
and failed to become immortal, not on account of his disobedience or pre-
sumption but because of his obedience to   his creator, who misled him.
Professor Zimmerman of Leipsig thinks the Genesis narrative may have been
influenced in part by this remarkable tale. You notice they both have eating;
they both have drinking; they both have clothes in them and they both have op-
portunity to get a lasting, eternal life and they don't get it.   Well, there
is a similarity, but actually when you get into the heart of it the two
stories are utterly different. The whole viewpoint and purpose is different;
the whole picture of Adam and of Adapa are utterly different and—Adam ate;
Adapa refused to eat. Adam ate in disobedience; Adapa refused to eat in
obedience. Adapa, as he says, the guess is, and it is a good guess too, that
        misled him. He didn't want/to become immortal. On the other hand, how
                                   Adapa
do we know? It might be that   really thought that   would give him
poison, and told him not to eat it, and that   changed his mind, being
more favorably impressed by the report of the   and   than
had thought he would be, and consequently that he had actually given him food
of life, as it says.   At any rate, to say that this is the origen of the
Biblical story weems to me so fantastic that I would not waste time on it
except for the fact that you will find it dogmatically stated that the story
of the fall is derived from a Babylonian original, and if so, this is the
original from which it is derived.   It is a theory which rests on absolutely
no foundation.   Therefore, I feel that I am not interested in reading any more
when I see that the claim of Babylonian derivation is extremely weak.

    Now we go on to No. 3, the fall itself, we call No. 3, because we go
on to discuss other things related to the fall in what follows.   The fall itself.
We have this story in Genesis 3, the story is very briefly told. There are not
many wasted words.   There is not much extra detail thrown in.   There are many
things which arenot explained. I came across a very interesting question just