

think that God would reveal Himself to other personalities. So revelation is simply what would be natural to expect if God is a Person. It is quite unthinkable that this universe should be it as it is without a Person who formed and planned it and controls it.

So Revelation, Divine Revelation, is fundamentally the same as the revelation, the communication that we make the one to the other. It would be a strange thing if we did not have revelation. The Bible tells us as we read in Hebrews that God at various times and diverse manners spoke in times past to the fathers by the prophets, and in these last days has spoken to us by His Son. We read God spoke in various times and in diverse manners. That is true of all revelation.

Somebody says to me, You got up at 5 a.m. That is a statement of fact, isn't it. Somebody else says, You got up at 5 o'clock this morning? That's a question, an ejaculation, an expression of surprise. Someone else says, You got up at 5 this morning, and it's quite obvious he's doubting the truth of it. There are 3 entirely different ideas expressed by the same words. We all reveal ourselves in various manners. Not simply by words. Scripture says, The heavens declare the glory of God. God reveals himself in various manners as we do. It is most common for us to think of revelation simply as a matter of putting down words, and that the words are all that matters. But actually the combination of the words, the expression of the words, the manner of presentation of them has a tremendous amount to do with our understanding of them. We reveal ourselves by our bodily motions, by the expressions of our face. We reveal ourselves in various manners. It is only natural Hebrews says, God would reveal Himself at various times and in various manners.

The Bible tells us life is much more complicated than we might think. The Bible teaches God created all things and controls all things. Everything is a part of His plan. Whatever comes into our lives is part of His plan. If we know Christ as our Saviour we can trust in Him and know that whatever He sends is best. That's the Bible teaching. But the Bible also teaches that God has permitted Satan to become the Prince of this world. And God has permitted man to fall into sin. God has permitted all sorts of things to happen in this world that can only be remedied by the great power of God. We can struggle against them but we can't overcome them except through His power. And He has taught that the way we overcome them is not by struggling but by trusting Jesus Christ who did the great work, who gave His life on Calvary's cross the atonement for our sin. Consequently we learn from the Bible that in this wonderful universe God created, it is not simply like a clockwork mechanism in which everything is working in perfect order, but that God for His own purposes and in accordance with His own wisdom has permitted the coming in of evil forces. The result is we have revelation in the world not only from God, but we have revelation from Satan and from demons. We have revelation from misguided human beings. We have all sorts of revelations. So it is our duty to test the revelations. God has not permitted us to have brains that can do nothing from ourselves and figure out all the mysteries of the universe. We do not have that kind of a mind. But we do have a mind that is capable of testing a revelation, and God wants us to test the revelations and see how it answers the test that can be made to it.