

could be put alongside the character that we find portrayed in the gospels, the character of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But it is impossible logically to accept Jesus simply as a great man and a wonderful teacher. It is impossible because His teachings contain such clear statements of His own claim to be far more than a teacher. He claims actually to be the very God who created the universe.

You remember that Jesus said in Matt.26:64: "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of God and coming in the clouds of heaven." And in Matt.28:18, He said: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."

Mr. Steele:-- Yes, and in John 8:58, He said: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am." And in John 14:9, He said: "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

Dr. MacRae:-- Exactly! Jesus declared Himself to be God. Such claims in the mouth of anyone else would sound like the ravings of a maniac; in the mouth of such a wonderful character as Jesus Christ, they seem perfectly natural. Yet we must recognize that if they are not true, then He is not the greatest character that the world has ever seen, but merely a ridiculous idiot, with crazy delusions of grandeur. It is simply impossible to think of such a character as Jesus Christ as one who had an utterly false idea about Himself and His relation to the world. He is either the God of the universe, or He is what hardly anybody would dare to suggest Him to be, a poor demented soul.

Mr. Steele:-- The Bible teaches that Jesus is indeed God the creator of the universe. Does it also teach that He was a real man?

Dr. MacRae:-- Yes, indeed. Luke 2:52 says that the child Jesus "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." Hebrews 2:16-17 says: