

~~45 + 50~~ *Handing by* title

① I consider it a real privilege to speak to you this afternoon on the subject that has been assigned to me; Internal and External evidences of the Word of God.

I can think of no more important subject to present before an international gathering of Christians. ^{From its very beginning,} Christianity is founded upon the Bible. It is a book religion. ^{all through its history, its various branches} We find its leaders have claimed to base their actions upon the teachings of this book. ^{received this book as authentic} ~~We find that nearly all of its~~ branches have been anxious in every period to deny any criticism on the ground that they were departing from the teachings of this book. Christianity is a book religion. Many people do not see the reasonableness of this concept. They say, why should a religion be based upon a book? After books in all other fields soon go out of date. ^{The medical books of today are} ~~They~~ are completely out of date 20 years from now. No one today would think of reading ~~today~~ a text book on geology or chemistry that was written 30 years ago. As knowledge advances, as men make new discoveries, we incorporate them in new books that we write. Why then should a religion be founded upon one book and stand by that one book through hundreds and thousands of years.

Although the concept, when compared with the attitude inlines of human thought ~~seems~~ unreasonable, it is not unreasonable because we are ~~under~~ in a different field altogether. We are not in a field in which the final facts may be discovered by human speculation or by human investigation. We are in the field of knowledge which man cannot possibly reach. He does not have access to the facts involved in it nor does he have the means, or the ability to investigate the important phases of it. In the short life he lives upon the earth here he must make choices and decisions which affect his eternal destiny. He can have no way of knowing what that destiny is except God, the Creator of the universe give him a book to explain it to him. Revelation is one of the common facts in life. We expect other personalities to reveal themselves to us. Our attitude toward a human being whom we meet and whom we expect to be able to converse with us is altogether different from our attitude toward a piece of machinery. ^{only} The question then that is vital is this. Is there