

out of place in the relationship to the non-Christian world. It is something that is of primary importance to the Christian but not to the non-Christian.

Chapter 4, Theism.

We have already noticed that one of the outstanding points in the attitude of orthodox theology is its belief in a personal God who has created all things. This is something which has been rather taken for granted by most professing Christians ~~were~~ through the centuries. It has become important in recent years because of the development of various attitudes which deny or at least ignore the idea that there is a personal God who has created the world.

Theism is not the distinctive point of orthodox Christianity. There are certain other religions which also believe in one supreme God who has created the world and there are many gods, religions, that believe in personal gods who affect human destiny. It is however an extremely important part of the orthodox viewpoint because the Christian should be constantly aware of the presence and activity of God. God ~~should~~ confronts him at every step and he should be aware of this fact. As he looks at nature he should see God's hand in it. As he looks at history he should realize that God is moving and controlling in it. It is a very important point of orthodox theology, the belief in the one supreme controlling personal being.

Theism is a particular point of tension today. Actually it is much more so than is the question of the ~~is~~ inspiration of the Bible. If one really believes in a personal and supreme God who created the world, there is then no difficulty in believing that he could give us a book that is free from error as our guide in life. The problems related to inspiration are ~~actually~~ quite easy to handle if one is ready to accept the basic fact that a supreme God who can do anything He chooses is in control of the universe. This however is a particular point of tension today because it seems to contradict so much of the present-day thought. The attitude of many of our schools and of the great bulk of our reading materials today is one which leaves God out of account. It is not often