

Not only is this view depressing and baffling, it is also foreign to the ideas of revelation and Scripture which we find in the Bible itself! If the Bible is Christianity's source-book, then we should expect to find these so-called "Christian" views of revelation and inspiration in the Bible. To the contrary, we find that these ideas, rather than being taught in the Bible, are not found there at all. In fact, upon scrutiny we discover that the Bible teaches, not that God reveals an unmediated knowledge of Himself, but rather that God discloses Himself through events and words, through mighty acts and the meanings of these acts, through symbols and their interpretation, and through names which God gives to Himself. And it is precisely through these means that God reveals Himself!

But now, having said all this, we must renew our earlier question: What is it in these denials and criticisms of the traditional conservative view of revelation that makes Leon Morris feel that Christians must do some hard thinking and make some sort of informed response to this modern liberal consensus? Are there some new concepts and emphases that should cause conservative Christian scholars to review, enlarge, and expand their concept of revelation? After all, the subjectivism of Barthianism has been around for some sixty years, and many Christian scholars have thoroughly analyzed and critiqued it. What could be new?

One question which has been raised is this: Can it properly be called revelation if it is not received and, at least to some extent, understood? Baillie points up this question:

It is not enough to think of God as giving us information by communication, but ... we must rather think of Him as giving Himself to us in communion. Two things are implied in this ... first.. What is fundamentally revealed is God Himself, not propositions about God ... second God reveals Himself *in action* -- in the gracious activity by which He invades the field of human experience and human history which is otherwise but a vain show, empty and drained of meaning ...

... Other sacred books are composed mainly of oracles which communicate what profess to be timeless truths about universal being or timeless prescriptions for the conduct of life and worship. But the Bible is mainly a