

4. God is always Subject, never object

God is always a personal, living, knowing, self-disclosing Thou; never an impersonal, objective I! Man can know God only as a person knows a person, never as a person knows a thing; only as a subject knows a subject never as a subject knows an object.

5. Revelation of God is Christomonistic

Revelation of God is found, not in nature, nor in man, nor in history, nor even in the Bible, but only in Jesus Christ. He is the only revelation; in fact, revelation is Christ.

6. Revelation is Geschichte

Although revelation enters history (*Historie*), it always remains hidden, in the realm of revelatory present encounter (*Geschichte*). This must be so, because it is revelation of the transcendent God, who is rationally inapprehensible. Thus God is concealed in the very act of revealing Himself. Barth expresses this in the statement, "*Geschichte ist historisch, aber Historie ist nicht geschichtlich*" ("Revelation is historical, but history is not revelational").

7. Truth is found in the Revelation-encounter

Truth is not to be found in "revealed propositions" or assertions or predications about God; rather Truth is an encounter! Real Truth is personal, transforming, existential! This must follow, since no intelligible propositions can be formed concerning metaphysics of a transcendent God!

8. Faith is irrational response to Revelation

God-in-Christ breaks through from eternity into time and encounters us, confronting us with the decision of faith. And this faith has nothing to do with reason, for Christian faith is above reason, and even contradictory to reason!

9. Scripture is a human witness to divine Revelation

The Bible is a record of human responses to experiences of divine Revelation, of human attempts to say something about the experience of the transcendent God. The Bible is not the Word of God (Christ is the only Word of God), but is rather the word of man about the Word of God. Concerning the Scriptures, Barth says: "They could err, and they have erred in every word.... but precisely with this fallible and erring human word they have spoken the Word of God."

10. The single hermeneutical principle of Scripture is Christ

Revelation is Christ. The Bible is a witness to Revelation. Christ is thus the sole topic of Scripture and of theology (Christocentrism). Thus the decisive principle of interpretation for all Scripture, and the starting point, method, and goal of theology, must be Christ. Thus theology in each of its divisions becomes Christology.