

Is the Bible the Word of God?

I. IT SEEMS TO BE—

1.—THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK—THE EXTERNAL EVIDENCE.

- (1) Its Origination.
- (2) Its Preservation.
- (3) Its Circulation.

2.—THE CONTENTS OF THE BOOK—THE INTERNAL EVIDENCE.

- (1) It is Human, yet Divine.
- (2) It is Manifold, yet One.
- (3) It is Ancient, yet Modern.

II. IT CLAIMS TO BE—

1.—THE OLD TESTAMENT.

A. *The Old Testament's Witness to Itself.*

1.—The Testimony of the Prophets.

- (1) The Prophetic Function.
- (2) The Prophetic Consciousness.
- (3) The Prophetic Witness.
 - (a) The Mosaic Books.
 - (b) The Historical Books.
 - (c) The Poetical Books.
 - (d) The Prophetical Books.

6 Is the Bible the Word of God?

2.—The Testimony of the Prophecies.

- (1) The Character of Hebrew Prophecy.
- (2) The Substance of Hebrew Prophecy.
 - (a) Gentile Prophecies.
 - (b) Israelitish Prophecies.
 - (c) Messianic Prophecies.
- (3) The Harmony of Hebrew Prophecy.

B. *The New Testament's Witness to the Old.*

1.—The Testimony of Jesus Christ.

- (1) Passages which refer to Particular Narratives.
- (2) Passages which declare that the Prophets were Divine Agents.
- (3) Passages which endorse the Old Testament as a whole.

2.—The Testimony of the Apostles and Others.

- (1) The Virgin Mary.
- (2) Zacharias.
- (3) Peter.
- (4) Paul.
- (5) John.
- (6) The Writer to the Hebrews.
- (7) James.
- (8) Jude.

2.—THE NEW TESTAMENT.

A. *The Old Testament's Witness to the New.*

Is the Bible the Word of God? 7

1.—The Unity of the Testaments.

- (1) Structural Unity.
- (2) Historical Unity.
- (3) Prophetical Unity.
- (4) Doctrinal Unity.
- (5) Spiritual Unity.

2.—The Old Testament in the New.

- (1) The Range of the References.
- (2) The Use of the References.

B. *The New Testament's Witness to Itself.*

1.—The External Evidence.

- (1) The Canon of the New Testament.
- (2) The Post-Apostolic Writings.

2.—The Internal Evidence.

- (1) The Testimony of Christ.
 - (a) His Self-consciousness.
 - (b) His Attitude towards the Old Testament.
 - (c) His Claim for His Preaching.
 - (d) His Cryptic Prophecy.
- (2) The Apostolic Consciousness.
 - (a) Paul.
 - (b) Peter.
 - (c) John.

- (3) The Character of the Teaching.

8 Is the Bible the Word of God?

III. IT PROVES TO BE—

1.—THE WITNESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE BIBLE.

- (1) Its Saving and Keeping Virtue.
- (2) Its Compelling and Enabling Power.
- (3) Its Inherent Charm and Value.

2.—THE WITNESS OF CHRISTIANITY TO THE BIBLE.

- (1) The Sources of Christianity.
 - (a) The Christ—the Origina-
tion.
 - (b) The Church—the Articulation.
 - (c) The Bible—the Definition.
- (2) The Progress of Christianity.
 - (a) The Early Struggle.
 - (b) The Increasing Recognition.
 - (c) The Final Triumph.
- (3) The Influence of Christianity.
 - (a) Its Literary and Aesthetic Influence.
 - (b) Its Domestic and Social Influence.
 - (c) Its Moral and Spiritual Influence.

Conclusion.