

to leave

never has

utter the word Mesopotamia to have many members of the audience be so touched ~~by the beauty of his expression~~ by the beauty of his expression. It is to be feared that the attitude of some Christians toward the Bible is ~~exactly this~~ ^{rather} ~~similar~~ ^{was} ~~the sound of the words moves them greatly~~. This is not ~~the~~ God's purpose ~~however~~ ^{merely} in giving us the Bible. It is not ^{to} a series of beautiful words; it is not ^{to} even a great Book from which we can select a few wonderful proof texts and quote these marvelous verses. It is true that it contains many wonderful verses, but Jesus was not satisfied that the disciples should know a few outstanding verses, or ever be able to quote whole chapters. He criticized them severely because they had not studied into the teaching of the Old Testament sufficiently to gain from it those great facts of redemption which ^{lie} ~~though lying~~ beneath ^{its} ~~the~~ surface, are outstanding among its vital truths.

It is easy to see from the words of Christ that the attitude of the Christian toward the Old Testament should be exactly that of the scientist toward the facts of nature. The only difference lies in the place where we get the facts. The scientist gets ^{the bulk} ~~some~~ of his facts through observation, ^{although} ~~some~~ he must receive ^{many of them} by communication from other personalities. When he deals with material in parts of the world to which he does not have personal access he must get all the facts ^{by} ~~from~~ the communication ^{from} of others. The Christian, in dealing in eternal things, must get most of his facts from ^{the} One who knows. In his handling of the facts, he must use exactly the same method ^{as} ~~which~~ is used by the scientist. He must examine the facts carefully. He must arrange them logically. He must study and compare. He must form hypotheses ^{or} ~~is~~ from ~~the~~ examination of the various data, and then he must check these hypotheses ^{or} by the examination of further data. ^{Thus he is able constantly} ~~in order that he may~~ ^{to improve his ever increasing understanding of} ~~become closer and closer to full understanding of the teaching of the facts and principles which relate to the vital matters that are~~

to 5a

about 2 1/2 hrs