

Yesterday we were looking at the attack that is being made upon the Word of God, and seeing what a tremendous effect it is having upon our world. I don't think those of you who are constantly reading the Word of God, presenting it and dealing with Christian people often quite realize what the influence is among the great mass of American people and particularly the educated class. Because you find unbelief and denial of the Word of God just about everywhere you turn nowadays. It is not so much what is said as the inferences and the general attitudes.

I was interested in looking recently at the books of Dr. Rudolph Fleck who became quite famous about 20 yrs ago for his book on why Johnny can't read, and more recently on his book on the Art of Readable Writing and the Art of Clear Thinking which have got a great many valuable suggestions in them. In the course of these discussions on these points where he has some very excellent ideas, he seizes a number of opportunities to attack the idea that there are any absolute values, or that there is anything in life beyond what we can see and touch. And one of his mentions that someone had for the first time seen a locomotive and it went racing down the track and the man said, Where's the horse? Well, he said, There isn't any horse. Well, he said, there must be a horse hidden inside the locomotive. So they opened it up and showed him all through there wasn't any horse, and the locomotive went right along without a horse. Then the man said, Oh then there is an invisible horse inside.

Of course his inference was, We talk about God and the world and we don't see Him, and what he was saying was that people should quit ~~talk~~ talking about an invisible horse and try to study the machinery and see just what it is that makes it go. Of course that's the general attitude today. This talk about God is something that is largely imaginary. But it seems to me we ought to look at that illustration a little bit further. There is no horse inside the locomotive, but you never saw a locomotive anywhere that a man didn't make, and you never saw a locomotive start without a man starting it. It takes some kind of life to make anything go, and it takes some kind of mind to make anything move to accomplish things. So the attempt to explain the world as if there were no God is one ~~whazz~~ which is fundamentally illogical and irrational. But we find it all around us. So when you talk about the Bible as the Word of God, if God is merely some abstraction, some imaginary thing well naturally it is quite meaningless to people today.

When I was a student at the U. of Berlin, I was asked to preach at the American Church there and I did not feel I could do it because I was over there to study and I did not feel I could take complete charge of it, but I said I'll be willing to take two Sundays out of each month if you can get somebody to take the other two. That way, there will be more continuity than if it was every other Sunday and I believe I could that much time from my studies and still get the value that I came over for. So they found another student, the graduate