" 15/3/23 Chapel Talk Nov. 30, 1973

This morning I would like to raise a question and to give as two full (?)

answers to it. The question will be, "Is Christian Knowledge Scientific?" and my
two-fold.

answer will be xwaf/xaxfaxix It will be "Yes" and XNOx "No." Chn° knowledge is scientific
in its

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thomoughly scientific but in common usage, in the activity of many Chns° it is unfortunately not scientific at all.

Just what Now first to look at the positive (?) aspects of it. /What do we mean Surely our world has seen in the last three or four decadex centuries tremendous steps forward, tremendous progress, and this progress, anyone will tell you, is due largely to the results of science. What is science? Science is the attitude that looks for evidence. It looks for data; it looks for facts. It examines these facts. It compares them. It builds theories upon them. Then it checks these by further observation or by controlled experiments if possible. It makes models of portions of reality and ke these and examines them. To many people this would seem to be thet very antithesis of religion, and it is the antithesis of most religions. Most religions rest upon guesses, upon speculation, upon fet feelings, upon ideas, not upon anything that can be compared to the methods of science. But Christianity in this regard is different. Now some might question that very much. We say that Chnty° is built, not upon human feelings, human ideas, human thoughts, but upon revelation. And some will say, "What is revelation?" That's some sort of mediaeval idea; it's quite out of place in the modern world. The fact of the matter is that they are quite ax wrong in such a madaxaxwaxkd thought. Revelation is one of the commonest facts of life, and revelation is as at the base of all scientific progress. What do we mean by revelation? We simply mean communication, the passing on of ideas or thoughts or observations from one personality or from one person to another. That is communication, and in the field of religion we are apt to call it"religion," but it is absolutely identical. No scientist would know a tenth of what he knows if it were not for communication. I think no high school teacher of science want would know three percent of what he knows in this m the fold if it