

ABRAHAM AND THE STARS
By Allan A. MacRae, Ph.D.
President, Faith Theological Seminary

Since God, who inspired the writers of the Bible, is also the Creator of nature, it is to be expected that the Bible and nature will fit together.

This, of course, does not mean that we can construct a complete science of physics, chemistry, botany, astronomy, or even history, from the study of the Bible. This was not its purpose. The Bible was written to tell us what we need to know about God, about man's sin, about the possibility of reconciliation to God, and about God's plan for man. These are great and vital subjects, and it is difficult to get a true understanding of them into the heart of sinful man. To do so is the purpose of the Bible.

Nevertheless, if the Bible is to fulfill this purpose, it could hardly be expected that its Divine Author would allow it to be in error with regard to other subjects. Even though the full explanation of such matters is no part of its purpose, its incidental references to them could hardly be erroneous. It is the claim of Jesus Christ and His apostles that God's word is entirely true.

This does not mean, of course, that the Bible will use the scientific terminology that is in vogue today. Such terminology changes from time to time. What the word "science" generally meant a century ago, the word "philosophy" means today. What the word "philosophy" generally meant a century ago, the word "science" means today. English words are constantly changing their meanings. Scientific terms are often redefined in order to fit with advancing knowledge and with newly suggested theories. Thus, under