

1 present than half a century ago. 2) There is a  
 2 second class of interpreters that was quite  
 3 large fifty years ago but is now much smaller  
 4 than it was then. Those in this group theoreti-  
 5 cally believed that God exists, and many of them  
 6 even accepted as true the basic teachings of the  
 7 NT about the reality of sin and the necessity of  
 8 salvation through Christ. Yet their fundamental  
 9 attitude toward the prophetic movement and the  
 10 prophetic books did not really differ greatly  
 11 from that of those in the first category. Their  
 12 underlying though perhaps largely subconscious  
 13 assumption was that God, though great and impor-  
 14 tant, is really a factor like the sun which we  
 15 can look at and examine but which will neither  
 16 directly communicate with us nor actively inter-  
 17 vene in the life of humanity. 3) A third cate-  
 18 gory, consisting of a smaller number than the  
 19 first two, but yet with some rather able expon-  
 20 ents, has reacted against the present tendency  
 21 of shifting from the second category into the  
 22 first, by moving a very short distance in the  
 23 opposite direction. Its proponents declare that  
 24 God exists, that He takes an interest in human  
 25 life, and that He reveals Himself through great

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