PROPHETS AND PROPHECY

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ARTICLE

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That it was ecstatic, however, is highly ques tionable, and that it was characteristic of the
prophets in general is very improbable.

Conclusion. This section has included a cursory examination of the various antisupernat-^I uralistic explanations given to the activities of the prophets. These explanations often ⁸ strikingly contradict one another. Since most of the writers holding these views feel free to ¹⁰ accept as genuine or to cast out as spurious whatever portions of the Bible seem to fit their ¹² theories, their conclusions rest on no solid ¹³ ground. Even where, as in the argument regarding the alleged ecstasy of the prophets, the 15 conclusions are said to be based on the Biblical 16 data, examination of the data proves such con-17 clusions to be unwarranted. If one believes in 18 a personal God there is no difficulty in accep-19 ting the Biblical claim that He spoke to the ²⁰ prophets and gave them messages to pass on. If 21 one a priori rejects such a possibility there is 22 no end to the variety of possible explanations 23 which human ingenuity may devise, but for which 24 no solid basis exists.

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V. The Interpretation of Prophecy.

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