



THE
CONFLICT
BETWEEN
SCIENCE
AND
CHRISTIANITY

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FOREWORD

No other single factor has helped the spread of Christianity in the last 2,000 years more than the ignorance of the people which Christianity has consistently exploited to her full advantage. In exploiting their ignorance Christianity has always sought, and received, valuable support from myths, practical tricks, and fables described in the Bible as miracles. How was this done is abundantly clear from the following historical description of tricks which the Christian clergy played upon the common man to gain their nefarious ends.

“ The Monks of Reading were in possession of an angel with one wing, who had preserved the spear with which the side of our Lord was pierced. The religious men of the abbey at Bury St. Edmunds exhibited some of the coals on which St. Lawrence was roasted; and parings from the toes of St. Edmund; also the penknife and boots of St. Thomas a Becket, with many pieces of the true cross. They had also relics enshrined which could give rain, and hinder the growth of weeds. In one monastery, a vial was exhibited which was said to contain some of the blood shed by our Saviour. When the worshipper was to account his prayer as answered, the vial, otherwise opaque, became transparent, and the blood could be seen, and the brethren had their means of causing the opaque side to be presented until the offerings of the devotee reached the satisfactory point, At Boxley in Kent, there was a famous crucifix which was seen to move its eyes, to bend its brows, and to shake its head, to the great wonder and dismay of the people.....And then exposed to the people the wires and

mechanism by which these profane tricks had been performed. The land was full of such things'.

Like all hollow vessels Christianity makes more and louder noise to impress the superiority of her claims and to drown the voice of Truth. This is how she has so far muffled the opposition. Due primarily to the fact that the ministerial boys of Christianity received constant and determined support from the colonial powers, the people of these colonies refrained, for practical reasons, from questioning the authenticity of some of these fables dubbed in the Bible as miracles performed by the founder of Christian religion. *This* silence was broadcast to the world as tacit acceptance of these myths. But now, nearly everyone openly questions the historicity and the authenticity of these miacles to the great embarrassment of the believers of the Christian faith. Three such miracles form the subject-matter of these writings which we now place in the hands of our readers with the sole purpose of separating grain from chaff, and truth from deceit and falsehood. The verdict as to how far we have succeeded we leave to our readers.

Arya Pratinidhi Sabha Punjab,
Gurudutt Bhawan Jullundur,
October, 1964

Raghuvir Singh Shastri
Secretary

The following passage appeared in a book entitled *The Hindu Examiner of the True Religion or Dialogues on Religious Matters* written in 1898 by a Catholic Missionary, with the official permission (Imprimatur) of A. Basle, the Bishop of Calinda and Coadjutor to the Bishop of Mysore.

“Hence, my friend, we must draw the inference that a religion which has survived – and has yet spread all over the world, is certainly assisted and supported in a singular manner by God Himself–”.

The argument adduced here is so naive that only a person who has lost his power to think independently would dare to advance in support of fallacious ideas gathered in childhood. We know adultery, incest, fornication and some other vices condemned in the Bible have “survived and spread” particularly in the Christian West despite the sermons in the Bible against them. Does it mean that these vices have survived and spread because they have been assisted and supported by God Himself? The very thought is so loathsome that any sensible person would reject it outright. Nevertheless, it is interesting to study a few important doctrines of Christianity on which she rests heavily in this sputnik age.

Since “Christianity was the heir of Judaism, and its heritage included the Hebrew scriptures known to us now as the “Old Testament” it should be helpful to begin at the beginning of the Old Testament. The opening lines of the Old Testament read “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Genesis I:1) which can easily be called the very first

Christian untruth in the Bible. In this book (Genesis) the ages of some prophets are also mentioned. With its help some Christian enthusiasts have attempted to find out, in terms of time, as to how many years ago "God created the heaven and the earth". The estimate which Christendom reverently accepted as correct is the one made by Archbishop Usher. By putting great labour in this job he estimated, by adding up together the ages of these "ancestors" that "God created the heaven and earth" 4004 years before Jesus Christ. This was then hailed by the Christians as a discovery of the greatest importance and the infallible Church accepted it as another revelation. This paganish and pedantic theory regarding the age of the heaven and the earth was being accepted by devout Christians without a demur till about the end of the last century. Nearly all copies of the Bible then carried an indication, in the margin and opposite the opening lines, to suggest that God created heaven and the earth "Before Christ 4004". In Genesis 1:27 it is mentioned that "So God created man in his *own* image" providing us with more data necessary for our present study. According to this Biblical story man came into being 4004 years before Jesus Christ and thus he is not older than 5968 years (4004 years B.C. + 1964 A.D.) old. But we now know from *The Origin of Species* (1859) and *The Descent of Man* (1871) both by Charles Robert Darwin that, "man is descended from the lower animals". This is a scientific truth which despite the Biblical fable is being taught in all *Christian* schools and colleges.

All students of anthropology, ethnology, geology and archaeology know it very well that the age of man is much more than 5968 years as very erroneously given in the Bible. Eugene Dubois, a geologist while investigating in 1891 and 1892 the Cenozoic deposits in Java discovered some primate bone remains which have been since identified as remains of Trinil man alias Jevaman (*Pithecanthropus erectus*) for which a lower Pleistocene date has been accepted. This pushes back the origin of man to a point millions of years before Christ. Some other excavations made in other parts of the world have brought to light human bones accepted to be as old as "20000 years old". The burnt bison bone found in Texas "has placed this civilisation somewhere about 7000 years before Christ" and the rope sandals "discovered in a grotto in Oregon show that the Indian who wore them lived over 9000 years ago", (*The world of Archaeology* by Marcel Brion).

All this goes to prove conclusively that the fictitious opening statements in the Bible revealed by (Christian) God are poles apart from the truth as revealed by modern science. *Man inhabited this earth many many milleniums before the Bible was written.*

Talking of miracles alleged to have been performed by Jesus Christ, a very pertinent question has been raised by William North Rice Ph.D., L.L.D, in his book *Christian Faith in an Age of Science*. He says, "we must ask, what purpose have those miracles served?" He continues to answer, "In the first place, miracles attract attention to the religious teacher by whom they are performed - miracles, then, arouse attention and

secure a hearing for the teacher. But the significance of a miracle is far more than merely to excite attention. A miracle serves to authenticate as authoritative the teaching with which it is associated". We shall lay aside for a while these religious sentiments and put these statements to logical test.

It has been admitted that without the miracles Jesus Christ found himself completely helpless and that *without miracles* he could neither *attract attention* nor *secure a hearing*. This cuts at the very roots of the divinity of Christ who as son of God is said to have possessed *all* the power of this world and the other world. Of the several miracles supposed to have been performed by Jesus Christ we shall confine ourselves here only to two for want of space. The one is the miracle of Immaculate Conception *by* Mary, the mother of Christ and the other is the Resurrection *of* Jesus.

The Scripture Press of Illinois (U.S.A.) has published a booklet, *There is an Answer to Bible Problems*, by William W. Orr A.B., M.A., Th.B., D.D. While discussing the problem concerning the Immaculate Conception of baby Jesus by Mary, the author gives the *answer* in the following manner.

"In regard to the character of Mary we would be driven to one of two explanations. Either she would have been with child sinfully by Joseph and her testimony of innocence would have been criminally dishonest, or else leaving Joseph out of the picture the father of Mary's first born son would have been an unknown dissolute person who wronged her. In either

case Mary would be shown to be a weak-minded girl who fell, or else an unchaste woman who sinned and then deliberately lied about her conduct. Both of these explanations are grossly unthinkable, and it is almost blasphemy to seriously consider them." The answer to this Bible problem is hidden in the last one dozen words : any one wishing seriously to find a truthful answer will commit a blasphemous act. No one, therefore, ought to engage in this task. This method of answering the unanswerable questions is not new with the Christian missionaries. Whenever the protagonists of a false religion or faith find themselves in a tight corner they invariably take shelter under threats of blasphemy and heresy to shut the criticising and enquiring mouths. Any one not afraid of blasphemy will find the following pages of some lasting interest.

From a statement in the Bible ("Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise : when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost") we know that Joseph was not the father of the child because Joseph did not own it. Alongwith some other words which we commonly come across in the Bible we find an unusually frequent mention of "fornication" and "adultery". We also know young Mary married to a senile man was a part and parcel of the Jewish society which then was in the grip of an endemic of fornication and adultery. On the basis of this circumstantial evidence any one can draw the right conclusion. Moreover, in 1892, a Syrian version of the gospels was discovered giving the geneology of Jesus that

“Jacob had a son, Joseph, to whom was betrothed the virgin Mary; and Joseph had a son Jesus, called the Christ”. This puts an end to all speculation that Jesus was not the son of a mortal man. It can thus be stated emphatically that Mary was the wife of Joseph without solving, however, the riddle as to who was the father of Jesus. Arthur Weigel on page 46 of his famous book, *Paganism in Our Christianity*, makes an honest confession that “The story of a miraculous conception having gained credence in regard to Jesus, it seems that the Hebrew prophesy in reference to the birth of the Messiah had to be adjusted to it.” It seems very probable that some portions of the Bible had been written backward.

The authenticity of the Bible rests and rests very precariously indeed, on the miracles we find mentioned in its pages. Since miracles easily draw attention and secure a hearing, it can safely be said that no one would ever pay any heed to this book if this did not have in its pages numerous miracles. We shall illustrate the point by explaining another miracle mentioned in the Bible.

When the children of Israel were wandering in wilderness they were fed (Exodus XVI : 14,15,35) for “forty years” on manna “miraculously” provided to them by their God. Till the close of the last century the Christians, more than others, honestly believed that the Israelites were miraculously supplied manna by God. It was accepted as one of the great miracles for which the Bible is known. However, when the scientists of

modern age took interest and started investigations into this miracle, it was soon found out that manna was nothing but a natural secretion from some twigs and buds. Later, it was discovered that the secretion itself is of some insects. When the following news appeared in the newspapers the huge effigy of this Biblical miracle simply crumbled down into pieces and stood completely discredited in the eyes of the whole world.

“Biblical Manna-syrup-like drops caused by insects-From our Correspondent - Jerusalem -. The Hebrew University expedition which has just returned from Central Sinai has determined that “Biblical Manna” which has previously been thought to be a natural secretion from twigs and buds pierced by rodents insects, is a secretion of the insects themselves which produce clear syrup like drops. If sufficiently abundant they fall to ground, forming whitish grains from the size of a pinhead to the size of a pea. The quantity depends on rain, but the Bedouins say that in a good season a man can collect three pounds a day.”

The other miracle on which the Christians in general and the Catholics in particular lean heavily is the Resurrection of Jesus after death as said to have been hinted by Jesus : “I have power over my own life, I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again” (John X : 18). The devout Christians offer all types of childish arguments in support of the Resurrection of Jesus. They say the miracle of Resurrection is best attested of all miracles because it is mentioned more number of times than any other miracle and, therefore, it must be historically true !

The 14th and 17th verses of Chapter XV of I Corinthian in the Bible make it very clear that any Christian who does not believe in, and accept, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is still in his sins and thus is a heathen. This is how the Resurrection becomes the cornerstone of Christian religion.

“From the very earliest days of Christianity, the followers of Christ were willing to stand or fall by the evidence of this fact - His disciples made *His Resurrection from the dead* the very cornerstone for belief in the divinity of Jesus” (Lesson No. 41 issued by Catholic Enquiry Centre, Poona). This makes clear that the Christian belief in the *divinity of Jesus* hinges around his Resurrection after death.

We shall now peep a little into the Life story of Jesus Christ as told by his followers. We shall quote from *The Christ the Son of God, A life of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ* (1879) by the Abbe Constant Fourad, Professor of Theology in Rouen translated from the fifth edition with the Author's sanction, with an introduction by his Eminence Cardinal Manning, published by Catholic Book Crusade, Patna (1908) with authority from Gulielmus Episcopus Arindelensis, *Vicaricus Generalis*. We find the following description on pages 434, 435 (author's italics) :

“As evening crept on (Mark XV:42) a Jew who had not hitherto appeared upon Calvary, *suddenly* presented himself among the soldiers. His name was Joseph of Arimathea, and he was a *member* of the tribunal which

had condemned Jesus. *Rich, powerful* and of noble mein he had hitherto lacked courage to declare himself *in favour* of the Lord, for *fear of Sanhedrin* and consideration of his own rank had held him back - He came to Calvary, and there found the soldiers preparing to take down the corpses - but he obtained from the Centurion *who* had just now confessed his belief in the Christ's divinity that he would accord him *such delays* as he deemed necessary - Joseph then boldly presented himself before Pilate and besought the body (Mark XV:43-45) - The Governor's *first* thought on learning of the decease of Jesus was one of astonishment, so *sudden an end* to this torture *was a thing unheard of*. Having had the centurion brought before him, he inquired of him whether Jesus was *really dead already* - he returned to Calvary, where aided by the disciples, he *lifted Jesus from the Cross*".

It is now clear that on the tribunal which condemned Jesus he had a scheming sympathiser who was also *rich* and *powerful*. He was thus in a comfortable position to bribe the soldiers. This is supported by the fact that Joseph was able, through the agency of the soldier, to "delay" the matters. This makes it clear that some people were in league to help the condemned Jesus.

When the news of the decease of Jesus was brought to Pilate he was "astonished" because so sudden an end to this torture was a thing *unheard of*. What is the explanation for this astonishment? We have it on page 434 of the same book, (The Christ, the Son of God)

which runs, "Jesus had succumbed about the ninth hour, but the two companions of His sufferings, if nothing shortened their torments, had still several hours of agony before them".

This shows that Jesus was declared dead in just nine hours. On the testimony of history we know it was a thing unheard of for any one actually to die on a crucifix in such a short time. In this case also the other two condemned persons were to take *several hours* more before they would really be dead. We also know that Joseph returned to Calvary, where aided by the disciples he lifted Jesus and not the *dead body*.

We can now sum up the findings of the case. A plot was hatched to save Jesus if possible and take him off the crucifix while still alive. Joseph, who was rich and powerful, managed to buy over all those who could help or who might put an hindrance in the successful execution of his plans. Jesús had swooned on the crucifix and while unconscious *he* was taken off by Joseph with the help of his hirelings and rushed to the tomb which too had been chosen before hand. After some time Jesus *revived* and was helped out. This *revival* was proclaimed to the world as a resurrection and a miracle.

While still on the subject we must take note of two important points bearing upon this myth. First, Jesus was three days and nights in the grave but his body did *not* putrefy for which there is no explanation in the Bible. Seemingly this important aspect escaped everybody's

imagination in rush of the moment though an equally mythical explanation could have been easily offered. We shall do it now. *Since Jesus was the Son of God, his putrefied body was made whole by the Holy Ghost.* As no one can bring about a perfect murder this explanation too has an important link missing. Secondly, it is said in the Bible (John XXI:25,26) that even upto after eight days Jesus had the print of the nails in his hands proving beyond doubt that his body had *not* been made whole. His body did not putrefy because died he not when he was put in the tomb.

There is a very strong evidence in the Bible to show that Jesus had been smuggled out of the tomb in an unconscious state or after he had gained consciousness. It runs as follows:—

“And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken council, they gave large money unto the soldiers. Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him *away* while we slept - so they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day”. (Matthew XXVIII : 12, 13, 15.)

Now this statement that his disciples “stole him *away*” is the simple truth which has been cleverly twisted by the Christians, in the manner a clever lawyer would usually do, to suit their own case and support the myth of resurrection. It is once again clear that the disciples “stole *him* (Jesus) away” (Math. XXVIII-13) and *not* the dead body.

Arthur Weigal in his well known book, *Paganism in Our Christianity* makes the statement that “ – His resurrection is recorded as following shortly afterwards, not because Adonis and other gods were supposed to have come back to life in that manner, but because He *did* revive and came out of the tomb alive”. (Page – 112).

We have following additional evidence to show that ‘Jesus’ was stolen away by his disciples.

“ – and to make more sure that no one should secretly open the Sepulchre, they sealed up the huge stone – (The Christ, the Son of God, p. 437). “Who will help us to remove the stone from the mouth of the Sepulchre ?” they kept murmuring to each other as they hastened along.” (Ibid, p. 439)

This description shows that the stone was so huge that one man could not remove it. Jesus could not have, thus, moved the stone and much less from inside the tomb. The huge stone was evidently removed by his disciples before they stole him away. Another passage (Ibid, p.426) drives one more nail into the coffin of this Resurrection fable. This proves beyond doubt that *Jesus had not been buried at all* because died he not and a living person is not buried.

“They found the sepulchre *already* prepared; for near the place of the Cross Joseph Arimathea owned a *garden* where there was a tomb hollowed out of the rock, which as yet had never been used for any man – such burial caves chiselled out of the cliff-side, were

made in the form of narrow halls, wherein niches or rows of *benches* were arranged to receive the bodies. *Jesus was laid upon* one of these funeral couches. *With the help* of their companions, these pious Sanhedrin-Councillors *hurriedly* pushed the heavy door athwart the entrance way; then *all* returned homeward to the city - ” (author’s italics).

Some people, especially the non-Christians might be under the impression that *only* Jesus Christ is known to have performed the miraculous feat of resurrection after death. It is not so. There is another case of resurrection virtually ordered by a Christian in Japan. The story in *The Hindu Examiner of True Religion* by a Catholic Missionary (page 523-24) runs as under :

“When St. Francis Xavier, and his companion Fernandes were at Cangoxima, in Japan, a pagan girl died in the bloom of her youth - being an idolater, he was resourceless in his affliction - two neophytes who visited him before the funeral, advised him to seek help of the holy man (Francis Xavier) and confidently ask for the resurrection of his daughter - he went to Father Francis, fell at his feet, - entreated him to bring back to life his only daughter. Xavier, moved by the faith and sorrow of the pagan, went aside with his companions, and prayed to God. Coming back after a while, “Go,” said he to the afflicted father, “your daughter is alive !” Presently he beheld his daughter herself approaching.”

Jesus *had* said, “I have power over my own life-” (John X:18) but this story shows Francis Xavier to have had power over a third person’s life. This puts the

miracle performed by Francis Xavier in a class much higher than one performed by Jesus, the Son of God Xavier outdid Jesus. Does it not prove to the hilt that the Christians who coined these Resurrection fables did not seem to have realised even slightly that these would be torn to shreds in the coming age of science. These mythical untruths have been told and retold so many number of times during the last 1900 years that the Christians now really find it impossible to swallow them back. The only way that remains open to them is to try to sustain as best they can, and as long as it might be possible, these untruths with the help of high pressure propaganda. The Christians of yore were wild and simple people and obviously they knew not how to concoct these stories.

Besides this there is another fable in the Bible and it is amazing indeed how till now no overzealous Christian has raked out of it yet another miracle. According to this (Mark XVI:19) Jesus Christ ascended *bodily* into the *heaven above* forty days after his resurrection and now sits on the right hand of his father, God. Does it not add one more miracle to the already existing long list because in an age when the Christian West did not have even good hackney carriages to ride Jesus Christ bodily ascended into heaven like a modern helicopter?

The attitude commonly taken by educated and enlightened Christians toward the resurrection of Jesus is one of utter dismay provided their minds have not been deadened in childhood by fanatic theologians. Nearly all of them try to explain away this cornerstone of Christian belief either by evading the question or

avoiding the discussion. How a critical mind should view the Biblical miracles, including the Resurrection, is beautifully suggested by William North Rice Ph. D., L.L.D., in his book, *Christian Faith in an Age of Science*, page 379 :

“Some miracles can be very confidently accepted. A critical examination of others seems to require their rejection as unhistorical. In regard to a large number, the wisest attitude may probably be a suspension of judgement”.

The suspension of judgement seems to be the safest exit when confronted to explain the greatest of the miracles ascribed by the Christian enthusiasts to Christ. It has never been in man's power to perform miracles against nature and much less to explain them satisfactorily in the light of science. The masses usually accept on faith anything as a miracle that cannot be readily explained and so it remains as long as this ignorance (darkness) prevails. Taking advantage of such situations some clever people, who seldom believe in the miracles they themselves support, dupe, befool and exploit the innocent. But as Abraham Lincoln once said, “you may fool all the people some of the time; you can even fool some of the people all the times; but you can't fool all of the people all the time”. With the passage of time the truth does start coming out. This is what exactly is now happening with these Biblical miracles.

Satyamev Jayete

“Astonishing fact ! The Hindu Revelation (Veda) is of all revelations the only one whose ideas are in perfect harmony with modern science.”

(L. Jacolliot, a French sayant)

गुरु विज्ञानन्द दण्डी
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