

The Christian view of the world  
n.a. Col. 1:17-18

Pascal has said, "Jesus Christ is the centre of all, and the goal to which all tends"

In our day, not all views of the world are Christian views, for on many views something quite different.

In reading the high class theology of yesterday one can not help being struck with the frequent occurrence of a word which it is very hard to find an equivalent for in English.

The word is "weltanschauung" equals "view of the world" this word means more than "view of the world" as meant by this expression in English.

It means the widest view the mind can take of things in the effort to grasp them together as a whole from the stand point of some particular philosophy or theology.

We read of the Theistic, Aesthetic, Pantheistic, and Buddhist Weltanschauungen.

The Christian "Weltanschauung" is what we offer. In this we see that theoretical knowledge alone can not attain to that highest view of God which is given in the Christian Rel. and which is necessary for the completion of a satisfactory view of the universe as a whole.

We have got to take a comprehensive view of Christianity in order to protect it from its enemies. The opposition which Christianity has to encounter is no longer little details or points of difference which are supposed to conflict with natural sciences but extends to the whole manner of concerning of the world and of man's place in it. It is no longer opposition of detail but of principle.

Luthardt has said, "If we carry back the antagonisms of the present to their ultimate principle, we are obliged to confess that it is of the religious kind. The way in which man thinks of God and the world, and their relation to one another, is decisive for the whole tendency of his thought and even in the question of the purely natural life."

In our thoughts concerning Christianity we take the view that makes Jesus Christ the divine and human person its centre. It implies true divinity as well as true humanity of the Christian Redeemer. For one who believes this a very definite view of things emerges.

He who believes in Jesus with his whole heart, as the Son of God is committed to much else besides. He is committed to a view of God, a view of man, a view of sin, a view of redemption, a view of purpose of God - creation & history, and to a view of human destiny found only in Christianity.

This if you please forms the Christian Weltanschauung "Or Christian view of the world."

Now the causes that make people form a "Weltanschauung" lie deep in the constitution of human nature. They are two fold:

1. Speculative
2. Practical

} which correspond to the two fold aspect of human nature as thinking and acting.

On the theoretical side the mind seeks unity. It is not satisfied with fragmentary knowledge but tends constantly from facts to laws, from laws to principles, and from these to the highest general principles. It is a natural tendency of the mind to seek unity and to find it in the highest principles.

