

Starting-Point, and Method in the apologetic enterprise.

To begin with, then, let us consider the matter of:

### THE EFFECT OF SIN UPON GENERAL REVELATION

#### The Objective Existence of General Revelation

That a general revelation of God has gone throughout the entire world since its creation can hardly be doubted, in view of Ps 19:1-4, Acts 14:17, Rom 1:18-20, Rom 1:32, and Rom 10:17-18. This general revelation displays God's glory, His benevolence, power, divinity, His wrath against sin, and His justice. This revelation the Bible calls "knowledge," "witness," and "word"; it transcends all languages and dialects, is being "poured forth," is "manifest," "clearly seen," is known, and has gone to the ends of the world.

#### The Effect of Sin upon Human Rationality

The Scriptures clearly teach that sin has rendered humans incapable of correctly interpreting and understanding the visible things of the universe as revelatory of God. However, at the same time we learn that man can and does see and know the existence and something of the character of God. On these grounds, mankind is without excuse.

#### The Subjective Experience of General Revelation

To the unregenerate person, the universe does reveal God. But he or she suppresses this revelation, distorts and perverts that which cannot be entirely repressed, and constructs some other god. Thus humans create various forms of Natural Theology. And therefore it is quite impossible to begin with the unregenerate man's natural reason and to attempt to aid him, via Natural Theology, to build a stairway to the God of Xn Theism. Such an attempt must inevitably lead to some god other than the God whose knowledge the unregenerate person is suppressing.

### THE RELATION BETWEEN TRUTH AND HUMAN KNOWLEDGE

#### The Relation between Revelation and Truth

It is sometimes urged that all "facts" reveal God, and that there is no "fact" which is not God-revealing. If this be so, does this mean that TRUTH is equivalent to REVELATION? That is, if it is granted that all true facts are in some sense revelational, does it follow that all true facts are "facts" because they have been revealed?

This brings forward the question: Is there a difference