

formed into an exceedingly beautiful, composite, historic, evolutionary, dramatic, and that is, a prophetic poem. It is an unconscious but condensed picture drama of the evolution of the life, soul and progress of Mankind and it ends with the prophecy of the triumph of Humanity, in a realized Heaven. This turns out to be "the Earthly Paradise" to be gradually realized in the evolutionary progress of the future of the Human Race on Earth.

It thus realizes Aristotle's law for the Drama; that is, that it should have a beginning, middle and end:

1. A beginning, showing the origin and nature of the history. This is shown in the Hebrew books illustrating the fabulous and anarchic TRIBAL period of social barbarism, an indispensable era in early human evolution.

2. The second period is the temporary triumph of the Tribal government under the Maccabees; and then the gradual melting change of the Hebrew Tribal polity, under conquest, into the ethnic and METAPHYSICAL period of Greek thought, fancy and language. This is shown in the Apocrypha, without which the Bible cannot be understood at all. Unfortunately several needed books are usually omitted, and all should be re-arranged according to date and purpose, and the Book of Daniel should go in with them.

3. The third, the New Testament revelation, was the period of the Messianic revolt of the Tribal Theocratic polity—SPIRITUALIZED into the "Kingdom of Heaven," and represented as THEN soon to appear on this earth, and to be presided over by JESUS, the Christ, the Savior, the Son of Man and of God, "Our Father in Heaven." His appearance on the earth was a clear case of Messianic "Spiritualistic Materialization," which gave rise to the "Epistles," and the miracle and visionary paragraphs afterwards pieced together and called "Gospels."

The re-appearance of "the Christ" which he is made positively to promise and assert would occur during the lifetime of those listening to him (Matt., 24-34. 1 Thess. 4-15, 16, etc.) has never occurred, and should have proved the utter folly of looking for any thing like fact, history or prescience in the New Testament—even to the most deluded of Christians. The dream and wish, however, which was the father and mother of "the Christ," and of his revelation, and of the stories in the Gospels, and of subsequent Christianity, was in its origin the desire for a betterment of the Christian Believers ONLY, over and above the Roman Empire—its cruel conquests and corruptions. It so happens that the evolutionary progress of the Human race is at last about to begin to make this original dream of the

Christian craze true, unless the present victims of that craze turn in with the modern Despotisms and Corruptionists, and defeat the "Earthly Paradise," as they, generally speaking, are now stupidly but stoutly trying to do.

This is but a birds-eye evolutionary view of the rise and progress of the Bible Drama. In its mode of composition and getting together, unconsciously; and in result now to be symbolical of the Triumph of "the Christ that is to be," it is the most wonderful of Books. But more of this anon: Meanwhile let us unite to prevent its being a block in the path of progress; and one way is by making it a Symbol to light and cheer our progress on that path till it brings us in sight of the Heaven that is TO BE "ON EARTH."

#### The Moral Revolt Against Christianity.

Many people think that there is something good about Christianity, and that it is the right thing to do to sustain it as a cheap moral, or social addition to the police force.

What an unfortunate illusion underlies this belief may BEGIN to be seen from the sermon of the Rev. Mr. Ewing, on our 1st page. We say "begin"—for the conscience and humanity of this clergyman revolts quite lively at the horrid story of Jael, and he intimates that he has qualms over other stories of "God's chosen people." One would almost believe that he had been reading Colonel Ingersoll's "Reasons for doubting the inspiration of the Bible," as all clergyman should do.

And yet it is amusing to see that he does not see that the whole Bible is a lot of Tribal books, [except Jonah, as Thomas Paine so well pointed out,] and that their Law and Morality, which were only God's will and command, are limited to the welfare and glory of the Hebrew tribes. The words Moral and Human do not occur in the Bible, and its books and era of the world have nothing to do with those ideas which had not THEN evolved. You might as well look into the Bible for instructions about steamboats and telegraphs, as to look there for the Morals or the Human Law of our Age. All of the horrid stories and "laws" of the Old Testament from Adam to Abraham, from Jacob and Esau to David and Solomon; and even down to the Maccabees, scarcely disclose the trace of a moral sentiment. It is all the will of Yahveh for the glory and etc. of the Tribe. Humanity then had no existence.

In the New Testament the Hebrew Tribe was enlarged by Paul to include Gentile believers, but that was all! All others were damned. [Mark 16:16.] Against them Christ came to bring "not peace, but a sword." [Matt. 10:34.]

The announcement of his supposed birth was, "peace on earth, to men of good will;" that is to believers. All others were damned. Not "peace on earth, and good will to men," which is not in the original text at all, and is a corruption. So Paul says "what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or, what part hath he, that believeth with an infidel?" 2 Cor. 5:15.

So James, [3:17] makes "the wisdom from on high, first pure, THEN peaceable." God will "avenge his elect" on all their enemies. Luke 18: 7-8. Thus in The Revelation, only the Elect are "avenged and saved." An angel calls all the birds of the air to eat the flesh of the others. [Rev. 17: 21,] etc.

The non-elect—not in the Book of Life—are to be "tormented forever and ever in the burning lake." Rev. 20: 15. So it all runs from Genesis to Revelation. The Apocrypha, which did have a "purgatory" and a touch of humanity in it, was thrown out of the Bible by the Protestants in 1819, without the slightest right, consistency or decency, and to their eternal disgrace.

The point we make with absolute certainty is, "that all of the moral revolt and disgust," which the Reverend Ewing righteously has against the story of Jael, the murderess, applies with ten-fold force to the WHOLE BIBLE, which is a revelation and command, not only for the murder, but the eternal burning of the whole human race, except a few "elect" as above cited. The whole Hebrew and Christian religions and business are simply a servile obedience to a degrading prostration before an old imagined barbarous Tribal Tyrant God. It is simply the story of Jael enlarged to include and apply to the whole human race. It has deluged the earth with hatred, discord and blood, and is doing it today!

To look to Bible religions for morality or humanity is a frightful delusion, and an ANACHRONISM: that is, it is the "unpardonable sin" against our era and the human race itself! For evolution can never forgive errors against itself. Think of subjecting our era to the barbarous "God slavery" of over 2000 years ago! Think of reading this horror in our schools, as a "rule of faith and practice"—a God rule which condemns both pupils and parents to an eternal hell. Pretty stuff to teach them, isn't it? O, Bibliologist where is your shame?

We defy Mr. Ewing and the world to show that this article is not true.

#### What's In a Name?

BY ELIZABETH CADY STANTON.

When we see what absurd names custom has perpetuated under a

male dynasty, it is time for the mothers of the race to inaugurate a new system in naming the sons and daughters of the future generations, handing down beautiful, dignified, euphonious names.

The fathers have heretofore, like medical students in cemeteries, moused around tombstones for the names of dead ancestors, and have given us such cognomens as Bull, Hogg, Cobb, Hoar, Catt, Cruikshanks, Croker, Fish, Bugg, Rugg, Budd, etc., and Christian names to match, such as Job, Esau, and Ichabod.

Think of girls graduating from college, being registered on the calendar as Dollie, Mollie, Pollie, Kittie, Rosie and Pinkie:

Then, think of dignified women abrogating their own family names, and adopting those of two husbands, writing themselves down as "Mrs. John Roe-Doel!" Again, think of two beautiful girls, in muslin dresses and blue satin sashes, announced by an usher at a London reception, in stentorian tones, as "the Misses Bull", or "the Misses Cruikshanks:"

I have been announced on such occasions, and to a large audience at the St. James Hall, as "Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton." My early blunder was in perpetuating my father's instead of my mother's name. How much more dignified Mrs. Elizabeth Livingston Stanton would have sounded.

All vulgar, flat and silly names should be abjured, and it rests with women to do this work. We must refuse to marry men with objectionable cognomens, as they can be legally changed by a simple act of the legislature, and thus save their wives and daughters from being ridiculed and mortified all their days, as Hogs, Crabbs and Bulls!

If men, proud of some old ancestor, would dig round the roots of their ancestral trees, they might end in a snag, as I did, in tracing the origin of "Cady." I found my ancestors quiet conservative people, never protesting against gross injustice or absurd customs. As I went on step by step, I found the "y" changed into "e" until at last, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, Jack Cade loomed up and was hung for criticising the king's blunders in government and his latitudinarian ideas on the questions of marriage and divorce. Evidently, Jack's fate terrorized all his descendents until I appeared on the planet, possessing no doubt a few drops of his rebellious blood, which has kept me protesting all my life against the complications of the present civilization.

Lucy Stone, in keeping her name all her life, set a good example for married women, in preserving an individual dignity and a proper

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