

15 Warranda Park Terrace,
Edinburgh 9. 25th Nov. 1937.

Professor Karl Barth,
University of Basel,
Switzerland.

Reverend Sir,

I would ask you to accept ^{the} ~~this~~ ^{sent under separate cover} copy of my book, "Evolved or Redeemed?" & I would be very glad if you will read it & give the case presented in it your careful consideration. I feel that it represents a point of view which you will find - to some extent at least - novel. The burden of the book is the question whether the Christian Religion, in the form in which it existed at the time of the Early Church, is tenable in the twentieth century. I do not think that any of my facts will be called in question - nor the rigour & legitimacy of any conclusions drawn from them. In asking you to read my book, I do so in a constructive spirit. I wrote it because I believe it true. I ask you to give it your best consideration because I feel that humanity is burdened - in our day as never before - with problems which seem to have no solution, confusion & distress & because

I believe that if our leaders cannot come to see things in their right light we shall not attain to that peace we so much desire.

The day in which we live is mystifying + perplexing to political, religious + scientific thought alike. The time was when only a few asked, "What is the meaning of this day?" The question is now on the lips of everyone. In this book I have tried to provide the answer. In view on the one hand of the magnitude of the subject, + its stupendous significance to our distressed times, + on the other hand of the small demand that a careful reading of the book would make on your time, I would earnestly ask you to weigh carefully its various propositions.

When we consider the international lawlessness + anarchy of today we ask what is to be the outcome? If there is no hope for us in the Christian Religion as the Early Church understood it - what other hope shall we look to? St. Peter found himself in the position of saying "So whom

shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. The world is as yet too stupid to realize that this is the position - I fear that this stupidity is now little short of criminal, that the world is "willingly ignorant" & that as a result it is going to experience that for which men's hearts are "failing them for fear of the things they see coming upon the earth."

When we consider the change that is slowly but surely coming about in our conceptions, we have food for profound thought & the Bible exponent substance for profound rejoicing. Fifteen to twenty years ago those who took the modernist attitude said, "No educated person believes in Genesis or indeed in the Bible." Now all that is changed. With Sir Ambrose Fleming (of wireless wave fame), Dr. Rendall Short (Prof. of Surgery in Bristol University), the late W. R. Hudson, M.D. (the terrible unanswerable Hudson of antivivisection), Prof. McCready Price (Prof. of geology, Union College, Nebraska), W. B. Dawson, D.Sc., F.R.S., (of Canada) & Douglas Dewar, B.A. (Cantab.), F.Z.S.

declaring their faith in Genesis & their opposition to evolution it is clear that the whole question is raised anew. I have read works by these men as well as works by both the early & modern evolutionists & it is clear to me that the substantial science is the one in the creationists' hands.

I would ask you to consider carefully the theory of Atonement presented in Chapter 6. The conception that life is of the nature of energy is held by the Rationalists, but they fall short in that they are not prepared to accept the natural corollary of their own view, to wit, that life being of the nature of energy, it partakes of the properties of such & like the other forms is transferable. I think you will agree that the philosophic theory of Chapter 6 takes the case for the Christian Religion a further step forward. One who is a believer has described it as "a most satisfying theory."

There are many indications today that the Christian Religion is the truth,

but I think the most outstanding one is the fact of Zionism. This remarkable movement is increasingly commanding the attention of political thought - yes + if not of scientific thought certainly the attention of men who are scientists. It is well known + acknowledged on all hands that the God of the Bible professed to promise the restoration of the Jews to Palestine. I submit that we are witnessing the fulfilment. Great Britain's duty to the Jews is clear or ought to be. I think we are shortly to see a demonstration of God's power that will astonish. "Watch" - remembering that Zionism is the political expression of the promises of the God of the Bible.

The triumph of Zionism must be regarded by all of logical + critical mind as implying the ultimate triumph of Redemption over Evolution.

Yours respectfully,

William Mackintosh.