

## CONTRADICTION

A new form of mysticism has risen that exalts the absurd as a hallmark of religious truth. It puzzles the conscious mind because it strikes against normal patterns of thought. It sounds deep and intriguing until we analyze it carefully. Then we find it to be nothing but nonsense.

Biblical Christianity is vulnerable to such strands of irrationality. Why? Because it (Christianity) admits that there are such things as paradoxes and mysteries in the Bible.

We are confronted with this when we seek to plumb the depths of God. No mortal can exhaustively comprehend God. The Bible reveals things about God that we know are true in spite of our inability to understand them fully. We have no human reference point, for example, to understand a being who is three in person and one in essence (Trinity), or a being who is one person with two distinct natures, human and divine (Jesus Christ). These truths, as certain as they may be, are too high for us to penetrate.

We have the same problems in the natural world. We understand that gravity exists, but we do not understand it. The atom, we believe it, but have you ever seen an atom? We don't understand gravity, we've never seen an atom, but we don't seek to define either in irrational or contradictory terms. Both have the element of paradox and mystery, but no rational thinking person would say that they are a contradiction.

Paradox and mystery are not by definition a sign of contradiction.

Scripture: King James Version: Matthew 13:11, 16:25; Romans 16:25-27; I Corinthians 2:7, 14:33.

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