

intelligently. Unfortunately, he has failed to check with competent scholars before publication, thus preventing his own book from being a reliable as well as a fascinating guide. Sometimes he turns to sensationalism, as in his account of Sir Leonard Woolley's idea that he had found traces of the Great Flood in layers of clean river silt dating from the fourth millennium at Ur; he further complicates matters by introducing imaginary discoveries of Noah's Ark on Mount Ararat (not forgetting the "expedition" headed five years ago by Aaron Smith of Greensboro, N.C.). Similarly he reproduces the views of Garstang and others about the date of certain walls of Jericho, supposed to have collapsed before Joshua, though Kathleen Kenyon has now proved them to be a thousand years earlier. His description of Kepler's famous identification of a conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter in the sign Pisces with the Star of Bethlehem must also fall into this category. He is given to exaggeration in minor points, as when he speaks of "columns of lorries" needed to remove the cuneiform tablets of the Patriarchal Age from Mari.

Nor is he always careful in other details, as illustrated by his reference to the Sinai expedition of 1948, which he attributes to "a team of archeologists from the University of Los Angeles"; the reviewer was the only "archeologist," and the expedition had nothing to do with Los Angeles though it was a University of California undertaking organized by Wendell Phillips. When he tries to reproduce philological details he is also confused.

And yet it must be emphasized that every successful popular writer on Biblical archeology comes to grief occasionally, and that Herr Keller is more successful than most in hewing to the line of accurate reporting. He has tried to bring the translation up to date by adding six pages on the Dead Sea scrolls which contain much material not found in the original German text.

MAN AND HIS UNIVERSE: Any reader who is concerned about the world, man, and his destiny will be enlightened by "*Matter, Mind and Man*," by Edmund W. Sinnott (Harper, \$3.50). Formerly dean of the Yale Graduate School, Dr. Sinnott writes of these things with charm and humility, as well as with a lucid profundity, which has inspired and kindled the minds and hearts of his pupils for many years. In this significant volume, he provides answers for man's perennial questions about himself and his world "that will form a unified and logically

harmonious framework of concepts about man and his relation to his life and to the universe." "Our aim," he writes, "has been to fit man into the universe of matter, mind, and spirit without the necessity of dismembering him." He sees man steadily and sees him whole, and believes that only in God can man be fulfilled. He is true to science, but he is also true to himself, and as a scientist he is not afraid to explore the areas of the spirit and the soul, the emotions, the problems of sin, of justice, of ugliness, and beauty. This is a book for the many who cannot believe all that routine religious orthodoxy teaches about the spirit of man, but who also reject the view that man is no more than a superior animal.

—ROSCOE T. FOUST.

LIFE AND DEATH OF A CHRISTIAN: Edwin McNeill Poteat's latest book, "*The Dimension of Depth*" (Harper, \$2), fulfills the promise of his earlier writings. In it he shows that Jesus, in the crises of the last days of His earthly life, realized that simple and readily understood descriptions of the issues of life and death would not do. There had to be comprehension at the deepest levels if He was to finish the work God sent Him to do. What He did and said in these last days revealed the profound mystery of the Christian religion, but to those who would receive it was also provided a solid foundation on which a man might surely and confidently build. For, only those who have ventured the profundity of the depths can feel the ecstasy of the heights. So Dr. Poteat leads his readers through the successive crises of life as seen in the

dimension of depth—the crises of morality, piety, success, dedication, conflict, triumph, and death (which is the surest bridge to life). This will make excellent Lenten reading for Christians of all shades of denominational opinion, for the Christ of the depths and of heights is for all men.

—R. T. F.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS: The three-hour service from twelve to three on Good Friday, with consecutive meditations on Christ's seven last words from the Cross, has become ever more widely observed by Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. Books of these series of meditations continue to be published annually, and the latest of these, "*By Means of Death*" (Seabury Press, \$1.75), by Hughell E. W. Foubroke, who is the retired dean of the General Theological Seminary in New York, is one of the best, for it contains the distilled wisdom and spiritual insight of one of the greatest of modern Biblical teachers. Those whom he has taught speak feelingly of his "saintly character" and this character shines through the words and pages of this little book. Dr. Foubroke interprets the Last Words of Christ as forgiveness, love, concern in human relationships, despair, pain, fulfillment, and self-commitment, and he brings these terms to bear upon the relationship of man to man and man to god.

—R. T. F.

SERMON ON THREE WORDS: One of the great creative theologians of our day, Dr. Emil Brunner has also the gift of being able to relate theology to man's contemporary life. His latest book "*Faith, Hope and Love*" (West-



—Bettmann.

"Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind," by William Blake.

minster Press, \$1.50) is comprised of three lectures delivered at the Pacific School of Religion at Berkeley, California. It should commend itself immediately to the thoughtful layman as well as to the professionally religious because it comes to grips in a profound and creative way with those very things by which men live: faith, hope, and love. Dr. Brunner notes that we all live in the past, in the future, and in the present, and he asks how our relation to Jesus Christ affects our living in the past, future, and present. The answer of the New Testament is precisely these three words: we live in the past by faith, we live in the future by hope, and we live in the present by love. He reveals the theological depths of these words with a sure, deft exposition. "Faith," he writes, "is a relation to God's act of revelation and redemption in the past; hope is the expectation of what God will do in the future; love is the way by which God changes our present." —R. T. F.

BELIEVER VERSUS NON-BELIEVER: Although all men live in the same world, the world does not appear to be the same to all men. The Christian sees it through the eyes of faith in God as the Creator and Sustainer of it all. The non-believer sees it as a world which is self-contained and comprehensible, though the understanding may be difficult. The Christian never sees the good world as it was created, by God. But he must learn to find the traces and evidences of its original goodness and the structure of its good possibilities and good limitations. He must learn what life is actually like, and not be distracted by any of the economic illusions or clever escape devices which at least some of the non-believers have invented to shield themselves from its reality. In "The Christian and the World of Unbelief" (Abingdon, \$4.75), Mrs. Libuse Lukas Miller examines the major areas of human interest—knowledge and science, philosophy, social science, ethics, the arts, and history—and analyzes the special problem in each area, seeking to provide a basis on which Christian belief and doctrine can stand securely. Ministers, teachers, and students will find this illuminating study of the human scene one of the most deserving of serious study to come their way in recent years, and Mrs. Miller's lively style will make its reading a constant delight. —R. T. F.

THE MEANING OF SALVATION: In "The Saving Person," by Angus Dun (Harper, \$2), the Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Washington, D. C., has come to grips with the meaning of



—Bettmann.

"Creation of the World"—from a sculpture by Antonio Canova.

"salvation" as it is understood in the Christian church. Bishop Dun has succeeded admirably by the use of words whose meaning is plain, to make clear and winsome in a fresh way the doctrine of "atonement," and we see Christ, the "saving person" moving steadily with men towards God, but also with God towards men. In Him and through Him man finds the courage to face and admit in himself that ultimate evil which is alienation from God, for in Him also he finds forgiveness and reconciliation and inherits the promise of eternal life. Here and now, the author assures us, we may remember Him who is the dearest, holiest part of our human past; here we have communion with Him who is the cleansing center of our human present, and here we look forward to Him who is the crown of our human hopes. This is a book for everyone: the layman will find great insight and assurance, and the minister will find a way to speak—in ways which can be understood—of eternal truths as if they were relevant to the modern world. —R. T. F.

RELIGION AND THE COLD WORLD: The descriptive subtitle of "Candles on the Glacier," by Kenneth Joseph Foreman (Association Press, \$3), is beguiling. The subtitle is: "Warm Thought for a Cold World, being Fables and Fantasies about Faith for the Modern Mind," and it well describes the book's mood and contents. Here is a collection of very informal essays, ranging from the sober and matter-of-fact to the gay and highly fanciful, but all are thoroughly Christian and highly provocative. These pieces, written over a period of ten

years for publication in the *Presbyterian Outlook*, are by the Professor of Doctrinal Theology at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. They are meant to be read one at a time, but each is so engaging in its special way that the reader is constantly tempted to read a little farther before putting the book down. "Candles on the Glacier" is a book which everyone, minister and layman, may read with profit and delight. —R. T. F.

Rx FOR WORRY: It is good news to Dr. Leslie D. Weatherhead's many readers that he has published another book. Dr. Weatherhead is not only one of the world's greatest preachers but also a recognized authority in pastoral psychology, the field in which he has written his monumental book, "Psychology, Religion and Healing." Now, in "Prescription for Anxiety" (Abingdon, \$2.50), he deals with a phase of this subject which ought to make everyone who reads the book a grateful beneficiary, for all know anxiety of some sort which makes life uncomfortable and often seemingly unbearable. The purpose of the book is to help the readers track down the origin of their anxieties and face up to them. Unaccountable depression, nameless worry, scruples of conscience—these and other forms of anxiety are brought out into the open and dealt with in the light of common sense, deep sympathy, and, above all, the resources of the Christian faith. Dr. Weatherhead warns that it will not be enough merely to read the book any more than one just reads a prescription for medicine. The reader who acts on his suggestions will get the greatest help. —R. T. F.