

Articles mentioning Dr. Gordon H. Clark from *The Wheaton Record*

November 25, 1936

Phi Phi Deltas Frolic, Nov. 21

Stiggets titled the program of the Fourth Floor banquet held last Saturday at the Open Gate Tea room.

“Pay as little as three dollars a week—and no hot water”, was the inscription on the title page of the programs offered no clue to the rest of the evening's entertainment, but the inside of the program revealed more.

Among other things on the menu were liggets on hot hokentokes, the juice of lycopersicon esculentum, mashed paysips, poy, and ollray. At each place at the table was a rose.

The meal was presided over by John Sanderson, president of the floor, and between courses many entertaining impromptus were given by members of Phi Phi Delta.

The floor displayed its musical ability in a clarinet solo, *Stardust* by Haddon Johnston, and *Firecrackers*, a vocal solo by James Comstock. Both numbers were accompanied by Clinton Thompson.

After a few remarks entitled *Oh, Me*, by Dr. Gordon H. Clark, visiting professor of philosophy, and chaperon of the party with Mrs. Clark, and the singing of “alma mammy”, the guests made a *Scram to the Fourth Floor*.

The fire escape proved almost the Waterloo of some, but upon reaching the top, the girls found spic and span rooms and more food awaiting them. General room inspection and movies closed the evening.

Guests included Dr. and Mrs. Clark, Dorothy Sutherland, Dorothy Walker, Kay Sundstrand, Elinor Pearson, Betty Harrison, Betty Varnell, Elsie Olson, Mary Lou Allison, Nora Belote, Blanche Anderson, May Louise Harrison, Henrietta Henderson, and Ruth Berg.

Also present were Rebecca Sauerwein, Dorothea Hanna, Frances Farmer, Marjorie Lohne, Alice Gates, Grace Strachan, Jeannette Gruner, Delle Mackenzie, Mary Lantz, Lois Wyngarden, Pearl Hetrick, Alice Wallendorf, and Ruth Moser.

March 5, 1937

Dr. Clark to Address League Next Monday

In response to several requests of the student body, Gordon H. Clark, professor of philosophy, will speak to the League of Evangelical Students on “Modern Apologetics in the Field of Philosophy” at 7:30 p.m. next Monday, March 8.

Dr. Clark has been active in League work for about ten years. He started a League of Evangelical Students at the University of Pennsylvania where he taught philosophy for about 12 years before he came to Wheaton. He also helped to organize several regional chapters in the east.

While in the University of Pennsylvania he spoke at many rallies in Eastern Pennsylvania,

Delaware, and New Jersey. He taught at the summer conference of the League last year.

He was one of three men who brought charges of heresy against the Auburn Affirmationists of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., who said the Bible was untrue and that the atonement and bodily resurrection were unessential to Christianity.

Dr. Clark was the first to translate from the Greek material on the lost books of *Democritus*. His book, *History of Philosophy*, will soon be published. *Readings in Ethics* is among other books which he edited.

March 9, 1937

Difference Between Christian, Pagan Ethics to Be Given

Clark Will Give Expository Lecture as Third in Faculty Series

“For most people the golden rule is the most vicious and immoral principle they could follow,” says Dr. Gordon H. Clark, visiting professor of philosophy, and promises to explain in this week's popular lecture, to be delivered tonight at 8:15 in the Smith lecture room.

In the talk, which bears at its title “The Distinction between Pagan and Christian Ethics,” Dr. Clark, who is co-editor of a standard compilation of readings in the field, will show the main problems of ethics and their Christian solution.

“Of all purely ethical thought, none is so unoriginal and lifeless as the ethics of Jesus,” he further insists, referring to parts of the lecture which are intended to correct some prevalent misconceptions as to the work of Christ.

Dewey and Tuft's textbook of ethics will be discussed as presenting a prominent current viewpoint and Dr. Clark indicates that he finds it necessary to take issue with many of their conclusions.

“It's one of the lectures I use regularly in my classes at the University of Pennsylvania,” explains the professor. “Perhaps some people would like to get an idea of what the students go through.”

March 23, 1937

Dr. Clark Accepts Position on Faculty

Dr. Gordon H. Clark will be a permanent member of the Wheaton College faculty instead of a visiting professor after this year, it was announced by President J. Oliver Buswell Jr.

For this last year he has been on a leave of absence from the University of Pennsylvania and teaching in the philosophy department in which he will continue next year. He is also to be on the staff of the summer school of '37.

October 12, 1937

Chess Enthusiasts Elect Mackenzie In Meet at Clark's

Campus chess enthusiasts elected Delle Mackenzie queen of the newly-organized Chess club in their first meeting, Oct. 7, at the home of Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor of philosophy, who with Prof. Fred Gerstung, assistant professor of German, is acting as club adviser.

Temporary bishops, elected at the various meetings, will have charge of devotions. The result of games staged at the Thursday meeting is reported as follows: Pawn VanBuren defeated Pawn Bronstein, Pawn Hansen defeated Pawn Currie, and Pawn Woods defeated Pawn Lindsell.

In years gone by, a chess club had flourished on the campus sponsored by President J. Oliver Buswell Jr., but there has been little activity in Wheaton chess circles for several years. The club will undertake to revive the popularity of the ancient game.

October 12, 1937

CLARK MENTORS PAWNS, PUPILS IN CHESS CLUB

To the Chess club meeting Wednesday night Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor of philosophy, gave an hour instruction of the fundamentals and basic moves of the game. Newcomers engrossed themselves in mastering the intricacies of the game. The outcome was some very interesting and exciting games.

Advanced club members puzzled over a chess problem presented by Dr. Clark but no member was able to solve it alone. Joint cooperation finally produced the solution.

November 9, 1937

Moore, Foster Girls Swap off Invitations in Potawatomi Party

Potawatomi Park was the scene of a steak fry given jointly last Saturday evening by girls living at the Moore and Foster homes.

A unique method of inviting the guests provided much suspense. The girls exchanged names, each secretly inviting a guest for another girl, thereby keeping the couples a secret until the time of the party. Chaperones for the affair were Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Clark, and Professor and Mrs. De Witt Jayne.

November 12, 1937

Chess Players Must Conquer Dr. Clark

“When a player can beat me 4 out of 5 games he is ready to become a member,” boasted Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor of philosophy and chess club sponsor, as he discussed prospects for a Wheaton chess team to challenge other colleges.

Among the more promising members of the Chess Club are David Bronstein and Malcolm Watson, who with more practice may become eligible for the team. However there are about 10 in the club who have never before played chess.

No definite meeting times for the organization have yet been set as they are now alternating each week between Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

January 18, 1938

DR. CLARK TO SPEAK TO ACADEMY CHAPEL

Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor of philosophy, will address the Academy student body in Chapel Thursday, Jan. 20 on *Distinctions Between What is Sacred and What is Secular*.

March 18, 1938

French Club Hears Clark on Sorbonne

Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor in philosophy, told about the process of education in Sorbonne University in Paris, where he received a large part of his education, last night at a meeting of La Cercle Francais.

He pointed out the three most important requisites at the Sorbonne as writing papers for three successive days of seven hours each, as talking for one half hour on a page taken from a jar filled with pages torn from many various books, and as writing an unusually long paper on some subject in his particular field. Dr. Clark also exhibited French money, pictures, and maps.

Other parts of the program in charge of Paul Freid, president, included devotions by Hazel Cummings, a musical song number by Bob Evans, a humorous skit featuring study in French schools by Bruce Linton and Arthur Gibson. Two sergeants, Sam Wiley and Ruth Taylor, were elected.

March 18, 1938

Dr. Clark Tells of Urgency for Nat'l Freedom Promotion

Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor of philosophy at Wheaton college, Friday night defended the position of certain newspapers against the attacks of Senator Sherman Minton (D., Ind.) in a talk before the Beltionian Literary Society.

“In the field of politics today, the great need is a nationwide demonstration in favor of freedom—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, which means freedom from the petty mentality of bureaucratic politicians,” declared Clark.

“Unfortunately America has not entirely escaped the theories of crack-brained sociologists. One

of the most recent and most vicious developments is the proposal of Senator Sherman Minton to gag the free press. As a fitting partner of Mr. Injustice Black, Senator Minton wants freedom for himself and inquisitions for his opponents. The communistic policy of fomenting strike-riots is to be fostered by government spokesmen, while those who defend honest Americanism—the editors of The Chicago Tribune for example—are to be silenced and sent to jail. We may confidently expect that if Mr. Minton's proposal is enacted, his aims will quickly develop from fine and imprisonment to the normal G.P.U. massacres of Russia.

“A most peculiar factor in the situation is the presence in the councils of totalitarianism of a small but prominent group of college professors. Freedom of speech, of religion, and of education go together. Communistic elements in Oregon some years ago attempted to suppress free education, but fortunately the United States Supreme Court saved the common people from the abolition of all but politically controlled schools. Of course, college professors are fair targets for humor, but I cannot blame the press for caricaturing the idiosyncrasies of our profession, but the public school should also recognize that scholars are far from a unanimous approval of their own subjection to bureaucratic suppression.

“In the U.S.A. there is no danger of fascism—no colored-shirted armies parade our streets—but in the policy of secrecy and darkness sponsored by Mr. Injustice Black and Senator Minton, there is danger of communism. Both forms of totalitarianism, both forms of confiscation, both types of political racketeers, are abominable. The truly American public is therefore called upon to support the particular newspapers which Mr. Minton has by name attacked.”

April 1, 1938

Doctor Clark's Table Talk

Declares Wife 'Best Ever' In Role of Cook; Likes Pie

“My wife is by far the best cook that I have ever married,” said Dr. Clark as we sat down to the dinner table. Although this statement may appear out of place for a philosophy professor to be making, it was followed by many similar ones during the meal.

As the meat and vegetables were passed, he took only meat and potatoes, saying that he never ate vegetables with his meat. Then he went on to explain that mashed potatoes was not a vegetable; it was a means of conveying gravy to the mouth.

According to the doctor, peas and beans should be cooked only ten minutes if they are fresh. “Some people have no more idea of the cooking time necessary to make these vegetables edible than they have of the relation between Plotinus and the moon.

“I'm going to grow morning glories that are eight inches across and invite the whole town in to see them,” was the sudden transition introduced by Dr. Clark. “They'll be the envy of the community, and the seeds come packed in a fancy hand-painted carton done by a genuine Japanese artist.”

When the table had been cleared and the dessert brought in, he wrinkled his nose in disdain at the tempting dish of jello and whipped cream set before him. “There are only four kinds of dessert,” he said, “plum pudding mince pie, pumpkin pie, and Brown Betty.”

The meal had been particularly appetizing and satisfying, and I was thinking of an adequate way of expressing my appreciation when Mrs. Clark asked the doctor how he had enjoyed the dinner. “We have a very pretty table cloth, my dear,” he said. And with that we left the table.

October 18, 1938

CHESSMEN PHILOSOPHIZE FUTURE UNIVERSITY MEETS POSSIBLE

In the interests of a higher form of intellectual diversion Dr. Gordon Clark, associate professor of philosophy, and Fred Gerstung, professor of German, established a chess club in the college last year.

Members of the club team scheduled a meet with the faculty after several months of practice last semester and all five club men were undefeated. This was the only outside meet on the docket as most of the time was spent in developing the defense and offenses of the various players.

After a critical analysis of the king's pawn and king's gambit openings were proved to be most valuable, while the french defense is the most popular.

Possibilities of intercollegiate competition, although they did not materialize last year spurred the club to intramural rivalry. This rivalry perfected the games of the men and will stand them in good stead as they meet other college teams this year.

Tentative matches have been outlined for competition with Chicago university, DeKalb, Northwestern, North Central, Loyola, and Elgin institute. If the Harvard and Colgate chess squads come west on their tour this winter an endeavor will be made to schedule them on an open date.

President-elect Howard VanBuren plays a tight defensive game and takes advantage of any breaks that come his way. Employing this style he has defeated all challengers among the student members.

Dave Bronstein, for vice-president of the Oak Park high school chess club, won a place on the five-man team by his aggressive offense opening with the unfamiliar queen's pawn attack.

Despite an unorthodox style consisting of a weak opening supported by sparking individual moves in attempt to recover his loss, Mal Watson is the third member of the team.

December 13, 1938

Theologs Elect Prexy, Hear Clark's Paper

Intellectualism and the Scriptures was the subject of a paper by Dr. Gordon H. Clark read at the Seminary club meeting last Friday night at the home of Dr. Henry C. Thiessen.

Thomas P. Lindsay was chosen president as permanent officers were elected. Carl F.H. Henry is vice-president, and Edwin N. P. Hempel wields the secretarial pen.

Plans were considered for publishing a booklet in the spring containing these on theological subjects. The third Friday in January is scheduled for the next meeting at the home of Dr. Jacob Hoffman.

December 13, 1938

DR. CLARK

Christmas Meditation

During the Christmas holidays the world at large pays its usual little heed to spiritual matters; it is necessary to remind even the redeemed to keep silence a moment in order to ponder the significance of this anniversary.

The event we celebrate, like the dazzling stars which bedeck the department stores, presents many facets. The virgin birth and the incarnation are two of these. But of late years certain ministers in Christian pulpits have endeavored to retain a belief in the incarnation of God without (as it appears to them) the biological stumbling block of a miracle. One group of ministers expressed themselves as accepting the *fact* of the incarnation while remaining free to reject the *theory* of the virgin birth which some people offer in explanation of the fact. When, then, in pious tones they refer to the incarnation, many simple minded Christians are deceived; and others with not much more instruction argue that there is no harm in rejecting only one part of traditional Christianity so long as the essentials are retained. But those who so argue fail to see that these ministers, in rejecting one part of Scripture, have assumed the right to reject any part. And this is the equivalent of rejecting it all. For what portions they chance to accept, they accept not because it is Scripture—in that case they would not accept all—but because it simply chances to harmonize with a doctrine they have accepted from some other source. For them the Bible is not the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

Undoubtedly there are more pleasant and more encouraging matters to meditate upon at Christmas time. But from this less happy situation, the Christian may see more clearly the general principle of the inviolability of Scripture—a principle universally applicable, and therefore applicable to us also. A true Christian cannot pick and choose; he must study and declare the whole counsel of God. For all Scripture is inspired of God; all of it adds to the significance of the holy birth; and he who was so born has commissioned us to teach “*all things whatsoever I have commanded you.*”

February 17, 1939

Clark Scrapples Without Books

This little piggy went *Oink*, and of the fragments which remained—the Philadelphians made scrapple. Through their teeth, the natives of the city of brotherly love (Vare's domain) profess a liking of scrapple, and heroically down stuff with affected gusto. It's all Chamber of Commerce stuff, a relic of the days of independence.

A RECORD reporter prowling around her beat asked Dr. Clark for the latest info about his books being published.

“Oh, my,” said the doctor, “that story won't break for three weeks, but here's something that is really newsworthy.”

So speaking, Doctor Clark produced a box of scrapple, sent by Ed McCausland's dad. (It seems that Ed is a big time scrapple polisher.) To maintain the optimum temperature for scrapple, Dr. Clark puts the box (labeled “horseradish”) on his window sill.

“The important thing,” said the doctor, “is to get it neither too greasy nor too dry, but just *right* and then it is . . .” Losing himself in chop licking, Dr. Clark went into an anti-intellectual emotionalism. Even our reporter couldn't arouse him. The last word heard from Dr. Clark's office sounded like Plotinus, “Many times it happened, lifted out of myself . . . into the universe of scrapple . . .”

Feb 28, 1939

Prof Clark Returns After Family Death

After an illness of long duration, the Rev. David S. Clark, father of Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor of philosophy, died yesterday morning at his home in Philadelphia. The Wheaton professor left for his father's bedside more than a week ago.

Mr. Clark was prominent in Philadelphia circles, being for many years pastor of one of the Presbyterian churches there, and author of several books and articles. Dr. Gordon Clark returned to Wheaton yesterday.

Feb 28, 1939

French Studes Hear Clark

Dr. Gordon H. Clark, associate professor of philosophy, will be the special speaker at the monthly meeting of the French club, Wednesday, April 5 in E303 at 7 p.m.

President Henry Echardt '40 will preside. Dr. Clark will discuss briefly in French "Calvin in Geneva". Kenneth Hammonds will have charge of devotions, and Edward Jouard will lead in the singing of French songs. Anne DeBlock will render a piano solo. Later the group will participate in French games.

Conducted in French the meeting will last an hour. All French speaking students are invited to attend those meetings held every first Wednesday of the month. The French club is sponsored by Professor Clarence B. Hale, professor of French and Greek.

May 28, 1943

Phi Betas Honor Clark At Lunch

Wheaton's Phi Beta Kappa members met this noon for a farewell luncheon in honor of Dr. Gordon H. Clark.

Composing an unofficial chapter here on the campus, the Phi Betas have been meeting yearly. The five-man club includes Dr. O. E. Tiffany, president; Professor Mortimer B. Lane; Dr. Paul G. Culley; Mr. Peter Stam, Jr.

October 28, 1965

Dr. Clark to Explain Revelation Postulate For Philosophy Conf.

The 12th annual philosophy conference, to be held here next Thursday and Friday, Nov. 4-5, will focus on the thought of Dr. Gordon H. Clark, professor of philosophy at Butler University in Indianapolis.

An outstanding evangelical philosopher according to the philosophy department, Clark is an author many times over. He will present a series on "The Postulate of Revelation," discussing its necessity, significance and application.

Two seminars, led by Thomas H. Leith of New York university and David H. Freeman of the University of Rhode Island, will consider his treatment of scientific knowledge and religious language.

Because of the nature and general interest of this year's subject matter, parallel student sessions will not be held as in the past. All sessions are to be held in EC 140 unless otherwise specified.

November 4, 1965

Philosophy Conference Views Clark Concept of Revelation

The thought of Dr. Gordon Clark of Butler university will form the center of this year's annual evangelical philosophy conference being held here today and tomorrow.

Formerly an associate professor of philosophy for seven years at Wheaton, Clark has taught in the philosophy department at Butler University since 1945. His concept of revelation has served as starting point for a prolific variety of writings.

Dr. Clark is to present a series of three lectures under the general title of "The Postulate of Revelation." His first lecture, "The Postulate of Revelation: Its Necessity," is to be given in Pierce chapel at 8 tonight, followed by a reception for all conference guests in the Heritage room.

Philosophy of Science

Thomas H. Leith of York University in Toronto will speak on "Gordon Clark's Philosophy of Science" Friday at 9 a.m. in the Kresge room. After the chapel address by David H. Freeman of the University of Rhode Island, Dr. Clark will deliver his second lecture, "The Postulate of Revelation: Its significance."

At 2 p.m. in the Kresge room Freeman will speak on "Gordon Clark on Religious Language," followed by a tea at 3:15. A panel to discuss the two lectures at 3:45 will comprise George I. Mavrodes from the University of Michigan and Peter Steen from Trinity Christian college as commentators.

Dr. Clark will deliver his final lecture, "The Postulate of Revelation: Its Application," in Pierce chapel at 8 p.m. Friday.

"This is the only evangelical philosophy conference in the United States to my knowledge and for that matter the only protestant one I know anything about," says Dr. Arthur F. Holmes, professor and director of philosophy.

Background in Philosophy

Clark was an instructor of philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania and then a lecturer at the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Philadelphia before coming to Wheaton. He has been an ordained minister of the Presbyterian church since 1944.

As an evangelical philosopher he has written on a panorama of subjects, ranging from A CHRISTIAN VIEW OF MEN AND THINGS (1952), RELIGION, REASON AND REVELATION (1961), AND SELECTIONS FROM HELLENISTIC PHILOSOPHY (1946) to WHAT PRESBYTERIANS BELIEVE (1956).

Other books are A CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION (1946), DEWEY (1960), KARL BARTH'S THEOLOGICAL METHOD (1963), READING IN ETHICS (1931), two history of philosophy texts THALES TO DEWEY (1957), and A HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY (1941) and WILLIAM JAMES (1963).

Born in 1902 Dr. Clark received his A.B. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1924 and his Ph. D. from the same university in 1929. He received Phi Beta Kappa distinction.

Clark was moderator of the general synod, Reformed Presbyterian Church, in 1961 and is a member of American and Indian philosophy associations.

November 11, 1965

Clark Probes Resultants of Secular Philosophy

by Mark Newsome

Dr. Gordon Clark, philosophy department chairman at Butler university, led Christian scholars from various institutions across the country in two days of stimulating inquiry last Thursday and Friday at the annual philosophy conference.

Clark has been called the foremost evangelical philosopher in the United States today by director of philosophy Dr. Arthur F. Holmes.

The conference centered around a series of three lectures by Dr. Clark, entitled "The Postulate of Revelation." By the postulate of revelation Clark means the proposition that man's only possible source of knowledge is the body of propositions which God has directly revealed. The Bible in its entirety constitutes that body of propositions.

Secular Inadequacy

In his first lecture, "The Postulate of Revelation: Its Necessity," Dr. Clark attempted to show the inadequacy of secular philosophy. He discussed briefly the major traditions of thought in the areas of epistemology, science, ethics and religion, criticizing them on the grounds either of their lack of rational consistency or of their failure to treat adequately all the problems involved.

Clark concluded that secular philosophy is bankrupt—totally incapable of providing an adequate, coherent view of the world.

While this conclusion evidently satisfied Dr. Clark, it by no means satisfied all of his listeners. There was naturally some distress at the abrupt dismissal of all man's efforts to seek the truth.

If the first lecture was provocative, the second was explosive. In "The Postulate of Revelation: Its Significance," Dr. Clark contrasted with the total failure of natural thought the complete adequacy of supernatural revelation.

Supernatural Alternative

Since secular thought can give no knowledge of God or anything else, he argued, two alternatives remain, we must either deny that any knowledge of God is possible, or else try supernatural revelation as a means to such knowledge. If we reject agnosticism, we are left with the Holy Scriptures as God's revelation in propositional form.

In other words, we accept the Scriptures not because their adequacy is deduced from other propositions, but because their necessity is evident from the failure of all other systems.

Of course, Dr. Clark does not deny that the Bible must be interpreted by logical principles; but this does not mean that logic is superior of Scripture. Rather, the principles of logic are exemplified by the statements of the Bible. "Logic," says Dr. Clark, "is the way God thinks." He offers as a valid translation of John 1:1, "In the beginning was Logic, and Logic was with God, and Logic was God." Man's logical capacity is the most significant aspect of the image of God in which he is created.

The conclusion of the second lecture was that no knowledge is possible except the propositions that can be logically deduced from them.

This drastic limitation of the possibility of human knowledge proved too much for most of the audience. It left Dr. Clark open to various objections, and the other philosophers lost no time in exploiting them.

Biblical Superiority

In his third lecture, "The Postulate of Revelation: Its Application," Dr. Clark related the revealed Scriptures to several areas of knowledge.

In history and political science, two fields usually considered as belonging to secular thought, he attempted to show the superiority of the Biblical system to all human efforts, maintaining that the Bible has much more to say about so-called secular subjects than most people realize.

In ethics, too, the attempts of man have been futile, he affirmed. According to Dr. Clark it is impossible to start with observed phenomena and deduce a statement of obligation, or to explain naturally the mixture of good and evil in the world.

Concluding with a discussion of modern man's efforts at religion, Dr. Clark attacked existentialism and neo-orthodoxy. He considered the blatant irrationality of existentialism enough to indicate the impossibility of its being a valid religious option.

He holds that neo-orthodoxy, too, is strongly opposed to, rather than compatible with, Biblical Christianity, calling it a "non-doctrinal, anti-intellectual religion of personal existence."

November 11, 1965

Visiting Philosophers React Against Clark's Epistemology

by Adele Abrahamson

Philosophical battle was waged on several fronts in last weekend's philosophy conference as visiting evangelical thinkers vigorously reacted to the "Postulate of Revelation" thesis of Dr. Gordon Clark of Butler University.

Most basic was the epistemological controversy: "What is the basis of knowledge?" Dr. George I. Mavrodes of the University of Michigan questioned Clark's view of Scripture as the sole source of truth ("I can know David was king of Israel but not whether I have an appendix"), maintaining that knowledge is obtainable not only through revelation and deduction but also through sense experience.

Clark's response emphasized that our system of truth is incomplete, but cited II Timothy 3:16 as a proof of Scripture's value. He brushed aside Mavrodes' objection that if all truth is revealed through Scripture alone, he doesn't actually know that the book he is reading is the Bible.

Assistant professor of philosophy Kenneth Kennard challenged Clark to admit that his system entailed a metaphysic. Clark responded that his system does include statements concerning reality, e.g.,

omniscience, but that the basis of his system is epistemology.

In conjunction with the attack on Clark's postulate of revelation was the attack on his use of this revelation. Clark maintained that an axiomatic system deduced from Scripture encompasses all man can know. Mavrodes was his main opponent on this point, maintaining that the notion of presuppositions is of little use and that Clark had exchanged presuppositions for axioms early in his lecture.

He found Clark's thesis that revelation refers to all the propositions in the Bible objectionable for two reasons; such a system is redundant, and it is insufficient. Unanswered was his challenge to Clark to deduce from the Bible that the book of James is a part of the Bible. Later in the day, Dr. Arthur F. Holmes, director of philosophy, observed that Clark had made a value judgment in placing an axiomatic system over all others and questioned the basis for this.

Criticism of Clark's philosophy expressed in the Friday evening session included the suggestions, (1) that within Clark's framework of the high sovereignty of God the problem of evil is intensified; (2) that in emphasizing the logic and wisdom of God, Clark is overlooking the motivating purpose of God's character; (3) that strict Calvinistic determinism is inadequate, and (4) that thinking is not as personal as Clark says it is.