

Daily Reflection

April 1, 2020

Sometimes the Bible just doesn't make sense. Take today's Old Testament lesson: <https://www.missionstclare.com/english/April/whole/morning/01m.html> In it, God equips Aaron to turn all the rivers of Egypt into blood. Then, the magicians of Egypt did the same thing. If all the water in Egypt was already turned into blood, how could anyone duplicate the act?

As a defender of the Bible, you might rush to offer some rationalization. Let's slow down and visit today's saint, Frederick Denison Maurice. Maurice (pronounced "Morris") was a champion of experiencing the Bible on its own terms. It doesn't pretend to be precise history. If it did, there would not be two, varying accounts of creation. It doesn't pretend to compete with science as a method of learning about the physical world. If it did, it would not spend so much time addressing spiritual reality. It doesn't even pretend to be 100% rational. If it did, its contents would be limited by the scope of the human mind. It could not point to truths beyond us.

We waste our time with the Bible if we expect it to be something it is not, and we miss what it *is*: reliable testimony tested over centuries about how God has acted in human lives. It was inspired. The force for good we call God was moving in the lives of all its authors, editors and those who decided what would make the final cut.

The Bible brings you infinite companions for a time of confinement. Listen for their experience and wisdom.

Pastor Kathleen Kelly,

Interim Rector

