philosophies (e.g., those of Hume, Kant, and Bradley). Data—even difficult data—are rather God's good gifts and a constant invitation to an ever greater understanding of God's creation, his working in history, and how, especially in light of Holy Scripture, all of this declares his glory.

The greatest wonder, however, is Linus's ultimate discovery: how Halloween must give way to Christmas and how all of humankind who will yet listen may finally triumph at Easter.

Well, Charlie is distributing Bibles around the fire, so it is time to rejoin the discussion  $\ldots$  ]

## VIII

## A Christological Approach to Apologetic Commonsense: "Why the *Evidential Threshold* of the Sodomites was so much lower than that of Jesus's contemporaries"

"... consider now Jesus's denunciation of the unrepentant cities in Matthew 11:20-24. Keep in mind that my interest in this passage concerns the capacity of the unconverted to find evidence salient in behalf of God's truth:

v.20 Then Jesus began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles were performed, because they did not repent.

v.21 "Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

v.22 But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.

v.23 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths. If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day.