

be ever so good, the positive conditions of our own minds, away from God, repels the influence of the Divine spirit as we repel one another. And hence we isolate ourselves from God, and so long as we remain in such a positive state, we are living without God so far as the direct influence of His spirit is concerned. Taking this view of the philosophy and efficacy of prayer, we can readily perceive why the Atheist who denies the existence of God, and the Agnostic who claims to have no knowledge of His Divine existence do not receive the evidence of His spirit bearing witness with their spirits; it is because in their positive nature they repel the influence of God's spirit, by not permitting themselves to become passive enough to receive the influence of the Divine mind. And here I discover one of the strongest "Fallacies of Atheism," for if as it must be admitted, there is a connection between cause and effect, and if all phenomenon is governed by conditions, then in order to receive the truth, the conditions governing any phenomenon should be complied with; and as it is a law of mind as well as of matter that two positives repel, where is the consistency of finding fault with God because he does not answer the desires of the hearts of those who do not put their trust in Him, nor comply with the natural conditions upon which a phenomenon of mind is produced? If we would receive an answer to our prayers, we must go to God in faith and confidence in His ability to answer; and then expecting to receive, we comply with the conditions laid