

Man must have his theology. Men are so constituted that they must think, reason, form conclusions, organize, harmonize, unify, and systematize. The mind hates disorder, and apparent contradiction in facts, and can never be satisfied with such confusion. This is nowhere more true than it is concerning life, man, God and destiny. If all the creeds and systems of theology in existence should to-day be swept from the world, men are so constituted that to-morrow they would, and must, build others. Every man has his system of theology. He cannot exist without it, and even the man who rails against theology and theological systems, has his own system, however blundering it may be, however much it may resemble in leanness or appetite the seven poor and hungry kine of Pharaoh's dream. For a man to say he has no theology, or that he does not believe in theology, or theological systems, is equivalent to saying that he is not man, but brute, so far at least as that particular fact is concerned.

We have not time to look at every doctrinal view held by Dr. Watson. Let us examine some of the more important.

(1) Dr. Watson's views on Scripture:—

He holds that the utterances of Jesus have a supreme authority over those of Isaiah and Paul. The religion of Protestants is not the Bible in all parts, but only the words of Jesus, by which the teaching of prophets and apostles must be judged. The Old Testament is subordinate to the Gospel, yet God's voice is found in all the Books. The extermination of the Canaanites, he declares to be "an impossible action for any Christian," totally ignoring the fact that there is not a Christian nation under heaven which would not, under similar circumstances, feel itself bound by the most sacred ties of justice, righteousness, and humanity, to act in a similar way. What a howl of scorn and indignation rose from press, platform, and pulpit, because Britain or the United States could not, or would not, punish Turkey for her sins and crimes against defenceless Armenians! The United States has been blamed for precipitating an unnecessary war with Spain in Cuba. Perhaps so. Right demands that every