

Answer.—The Omnipresence of God is declared in many scores of passages of Scripture, and assumed everywhere throughout the sacred volume. Nor is there anything in the text quoted opposed to that great truth. The builders of this tower had been far away from God, He was “not in all their thoughts.” Now, however, He “came down” into the sphere of their consciousness in a very signal manner. It is the most striking and most beautiful peculiarity of the Bible that it uses human language and therefore becomes adapted to the human understanding.—God must be spoken of as He appears to the human perceptions and as He can be conceived of by the human mind. Rabbi Schelomo strikingly observes that these texts represent God as “coming down from His throne of mercies to His throne of judgment”—as if mercy were a more serene, exalted, and glorious attribute than justice. Such expressions as “God came down,” the Jewish writers term “the tongue, or language, of the event”—that is the proper interpretation of the event, the lesson it was designed to teach. In such cases God’s *acts* are translated into *words*. The “language of the event” is, God comes down, interposes, to frustrate certain mad schemes of ambition. Maimonides acutely suggests that, since the word “ascend” is properly applied to the mind when it contemplates noble and elevated objects, and “descend” when it turns toward things of a low and unworthy character, it follows that when the Most High turns His thought toward *man* for any purpose, it may be said that God “descends” or “comes down.”—(Haley.) In the case of Elijah, we read that God was not in the wind, nor the earthquake, nor the fire, but in the still small voice. Yet He was unquestionably actually present in them all. But it was only the last that He selected as His special medium of manifestation.

ABRAHAM’S DESTINATION.

Question 124.—In Heb. xi. 8, it states that Abraham when called by God “went out, not knowing whither he went.” How am I to reconcile this with Gen. xii. 5, which says that he “went forth to go into the land of Canaan?” * * *

Answer.—The name of the country to which Abraham was to