

To the writings of many excellent commentators, as well as to the comparison which it is in your own power to make between these verses, and numerous others of like import, I must refer you for the meaning of the several parts of this illustrious description. The text immediately follows; "And having made peace," &c.

My particular endeavour, in the subsequent discourse, will be to engage your serious contemplation on the *peace* and *reconciliation*, which it appears the Father of our Lord has been pleased, through the blood of the cross, to introduce both in *this*, and in the *other* world.* It is to be remarked however that

* It is well known that *the things in heaven and the things in earth*, are understood, by some expositors, to mean the *Jews* and *Gentiles*; the *former*, considered as exalted to *heaven* by the privileges they enjoyed; the *latter*, in a state of ignorance, senseless like the *earth*, until they were called by the gospel into an union with their brethren, through the common faith. The learned Mr. LOCKE, notwithstanding his opinion respecting several other texts, readily allows that by the thrones, dominions, principalities and powers, or the things in heaven mentioned in the 16th verse of this chapter, and affirmed by the apostle to have been created by Christ, are signified the *good angels*, inhabiting heaven. Is it not reasonable, from the circumstance of the connexion, to infer that the *reconciliation*, expressed in the 20th verse, is as comprehensive as the *creation*? Let the several descriptions in the *Epistles* be compared, as to style, manner, and apparent design, with the first chapter in the *Gospel of John*, and it is presumed it will appear that by the *creation of all things in heaven and earth*, is designated something vastly more important than the mere act of breaking down the middle wall of partition between *Jews* and *Gentiles*, so making peace. On this subject see Dr. DODDRIDGE'S Critical Notes and References in the Family Expositor; also the Notes of the ingenious Mr. JAMES PEIRCE.