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that men had the liberty of enlisting under which they pleased, and that those who in life chose virtue, should enjoy endless felicity. while those who chose and adhered to vice would eternally remain under its dominion, and of consequence be always miserable. Thus the infernal deities being judged by the poor pagans to be as eternal as the good gods, and more powerful, they sacrificed more to the evil principle than to the good, out of fear, and to appease the anger of those abhorred malevolent agents; hence, the frequency of human sacrifices.

Now when the christian religion triumphed over Paganism in the Roman empire many of the philosophers embraced and professed it, but with all retained many of their Pagan notions, among which was the eternity of these two opposite principles; hence arose the ancient sect of the Manichees, who believe not only the eternal existence of two contrary eternal gods. one good and the other evil. but also that all visible things were created by the devil; and upon this principle they might argue the universality of damnation. with as much ease and certainty. as we, upon the contrary may argue the certainty of the universal salvation, according to the glorious promise of God, Isaiah LVII. 16, 17. 18. 19. "For I will not contend for ever. neither will I always be wroth; for the spirit should fail before me. and the souls which I have made. For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth. and smote him: I hid me and was wroth, and he went on frowardly, in his way of his heart. I have seen his ways. and will heal him. I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him, and to his mourners. I create the fruit of his lips; peace, peace. to him that is far off. and to him that is near, saith Jehovah, and I will heal him."