

# YOUTH'S



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### THE BIBLE ABOVE ALL PRICE.

In the fabulous records of pagan antiquity we read of a mirror endowed with properties so rare, that, by looking into it, its possessor could discover any object, which he wished to see, however remote; and discovered with equal ease persons and things above, below, behind, and before him. Such a mirror, but infinitely more valuable than this fictitious glass do we really possess in the Bible. By employing this mirror in a proper manner, we may discern objects and events, past, present, and to come.

Here we may contemplate the all-enfolding circle of the Eternal Mind; and behold a most perfect portrait of Him, whom no mortal eye hath seen, drawn by his own unerring hand. Piercing into the deepest recesses of eternity, we may behold Him existing independent and alone, previous to the first exertion of his creating energy. We may see heaven, the habitation of his holiness and glory, "dark with the excessive brightness" of his presence; and hell, the prison of his justice, with no other light, than that, which the fiery billows of his wrath cast, "pale and dreadful," serving only to render "darkness visible."

Here too we may witness the birth of the world, which we inhabit; stand, as it were, by its cradle; and see it grow up from infancy to manhood, under the forming hand of its Creator. We may see light at his summons starting into existence, and discovering a world of waters without a shore. Controlled by His word, the waters subside; and islands and continents appear, not as now, clothed with verdure and fertility, but sterile and naked, as the sands of Arabia.

Again he speaks; and the landscape appears, uniting the various beauties of spring, summer and autumn; and extending further than the eye can reach. Still all is silent; not even the hum of the insect is heard; the stillness of death pervades creation; till, in an instant, songs burst from every grove; and the startled spectator, raising his eyes from the carpet at his feet, sees the air, the earth, and the sea filled with life and activity, in a thousand various forms.

By opening this volume, we may, at any time, walk in the garden of Eden with Adam; sit in the ark with Noah; share the hospitality, or witness the faith of Abraham; ascend to the mount of God with Moses; unite with the secret devotions of David; or listen to the eloquent and impassioned address of St. Paul. Nay, more; we may here converse with Him, who spake, as man never spake; participate with the spirits of the just made perfect in the employments and happiness of heaven.

Destroy this volume, as the enemies of human happiness have vainly endeavored to do, and you render us profoundly ignorant of our Creator; of the fer-