

verse of the 12th chapter of the same epistle says, "The writer seems to testify that the advent and work of Christ have changed the estate of the Old Testament fathers and saints into greater and perfect bliss, an inference which is forced on us by many other passages in Scripture."

I have been led to make this divergence, as much confusion appears to exist relative to the state or place of departed spirits. Scripture when rightly divided ever shows a beautiful accord.

To return to the narrative of the rich man and Lazarus in the 16th of Luke; we find in this Scripture a statement so plain, so simple, so conclusive of departed spirits recognizing each other, that it is of itself sufficient assurance that we shall know each other there; that is in the separate state when the spirit is separate from the body, and if this is so as regards the spirit separate from the body, how much more can we confidently hope we shall know each other when we are "clothed upon with our house which is from heaven," 2 Cor. v. 2. "And it came to pass that the beggar died and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom, the rich man also died and was buried and in hell (Hades) he lifted up his eyes being in torments and seeth Abraham afar off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham have mercy on me and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue for I am tormented in this flame." But Abraham could not comply with his request for there was a great gulf fixed, over which neither could pass to the other. The rich man then asked that Lazarus be sent to his five brethren to testify to them "lest they also come into