

The breath of life is sometimes translated spirit in the margin ; thus the fifth verse would read : " Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones: Behold, I will cause spirit to enter into you, and ye shall live." The things and creatures of the lower creation are only temporal, and will come to an end. They show forth the power and glory of God: but all things temporal will pass away. The day is coming when the earth itself will be dissolved. II. Peter, 3rd chapter, " The heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." Thus shall end the lower creation and with it all that is mortal of the higher creation, as recorded by Malachi, iv, 1, " For behold the day cometh that burneth as a furnace; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch." Then comes the promise of a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness, and immortality.

Although the scriptures refer to the soul of man and to the soul of beast as having some things in common, yet they clearly state, that the soul of man is of a higher order than is the soul of the beast. That man, or his soul, is the highest development of spirit and matter in mortal life. That man is not only endowed with greater faculties of mind, and greater powers of intellect than any beast of the lower creation, but, also, that he has greater responsibilities, in being held accountable to God for his conduct; for it is written " We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ," and, " every one of us shall give an account of himself to God."