

much is said and written about the power of human suggestion, one can readily understand that the devil, who was created in an order superior to ours, can exercise this power in a greater degree, but never to the extent of destroying our free will. This belief, more or less distorted in popular tales, and overlaid with poetic fictions, yet unvarying in its central idea, is found in the religions of all primitive peoples such as the Egyptians, Assyrians, Chaldeans and Hebrews, as well as in that of the Greeks and Romans, and is clearly traceable to one original source. The story of the temptation and fall of our first Parents in Eden (Gen. III) was handed down from sire to son, and with it some of the infused knowledge regarding the supernatural possessed by Adam and Eve. The Sacred Scriptures leave no doubt of the existence of an evil spirit, ever the enemy of the human race. In the books of the Old Testament he is spoken of as "the enemy," "the adversary" (Satan); and in the first and second chapters of the Book of Job we are given an insight of his character as the malicious tempter of the virtuous. In the third chapter of Zachary we see him as the accuser of those whom he has duped, to prevent, if possible, their repentance. And the Book of Wisdom tells us that "God created man incorruptible, and to the image of His own likeness He made him. But by the envy of the devil death came into the world."—(II, 23, 24.) To this sacred writer the Fall in Eden of our First Parents, with death as one of its consequences, was no myth, or poetic legend, but a sad historic fact. The existence of the devil as a being endowed with intelligence and will, his enmity to mankind, and his power to injure, can be proved from various passages of the Old Testament.

In the fuller Revelation of the Gospel Dispensation we find