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material organization is concerned, both are of dust, and both will return to the earth from which they came. There, however, the comparison ends, for the writer immediately goes on to say, "Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?"* pointing unmistakably to the great difference between man and the lower animals in his spiritual character, notwithstanding the similarity of his material organization to theirs.

1.—Innumerable passages are scattered throughout the whole of the books of the Old Testament wherein the doctrine of a future life, if not expressly stated, is most unquestionably implied. At the very commencement of the record we meet with a description which involves a wide difference between man and the lower animals. Of the latter it is simply said, that they were made, whilst of the former, the process of his creation is distinctly described. In addition to the shaping of his material body from the dust of the earth, God "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul,"† a point of difference between him and the highest of the inferior animals which must not be overlooked. Although I am perfectly well aware that it does not say that he received an immortal spirit, but that he became a living soul, נֶפֶשׁ, still the very fact that language of so different a character is used in reference to his creation to that which we find employed concerning the calling into being of every other organic thing, shows unmistakably that there is a wide gulf placed between the two which it is impossible to bridge over. Moreover, of man it is said that he was formed in the image of God,‡ which clearly implies his possession of spiritual powers, that alone could bear comparison with the Eternal Being, whose child he was, in a sense which did not apply to any other part of creation. Then, after the Deluge, the mandate that went forth against the shedding of man's blood, and the threat which accompanied it, were based upon this very fact of the creation of man in God's image. "Whoso shed leth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God made he man."§

* Ecclesiastes iii., 21. † Genesis ii., 7. ‡ Genesis i., 27. § Genesis ix., 6.