

"earthly house." The Saviour his body a "temple." All declaring that in this tabernacle, house, and temple, there were occupants superior to the tenements.

The "unclean spirits" and "wicked spirits" of our Saviour's time were finite spirits. It matters not whether they ever existed in bodies as our spirits do, or not. We know that they existed *out of bodies*, and took possession of bodies, and were real existences. What now becomes of the materialistic theory? It falls upon its knees, and begins to pray for evidence. Let all who possess souls and who love the truth, pray for the poor deluded ones who have been deceived by this chilling heresy.

CHAPTER VI.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED WILL BE ETERNAL CONSCIOUS SUFFERING—NOT ANNIHILATION.

The theory we oppose teaches that the penalty of the Divine law to be inflicted upon the wicked at the general judgment, is death, in the sense of cessation of being; or, in plain words, will be annihilation. Its advocates admit that it will be everlasting or endless punishment; but claim that the punishment will be non-existence, or an eternal not-being. The argument, as we have seen and heard it stated, is, that everlasting punishment is everlasting privation of being; and to deprive one of his existence for ever and ever, is to take from him his only really valuable possession, and hence to punish him with eternal loss or everlasting punishment. Is this correct? Punishment is an infliction or a privation. To punish by privation is to take from the punished something that is really valuable, or that affords happiness or hope. What of this nature will the wicked possess in the judgment? Keeping in mind the fact that the ungodly will be resurrected impure, wretched, miserable, with shame and contempt beyond description, with no possible hope of pardon or moral improvement, and that their existence will be positively and necessarily a most wretched state, we ask—could the annihilation of such an existence be, in any meaning of language, a *curse* or a *loss*? Annihilation cannot be considered the penalty of the law, or