

bodiment of every evil principle. Since that period God has allowed him to test the reality of every created intelligence; the result is that one-third of the heavenly beings and an innumerable number of human beings have joined his standard and have become his emissaries.

This apparent digression has seemed necessary in order to present God's avowed purposes as to man insofar as they have been revealed to us by His holy scriptures. It was, then, His intent before this world came into existence that in the fulness of time He should manifest Himself in human form that He might be seen by His intelligent creatures, and not only so, but of those to whom He would thus be revealed there should be a company who would be partakers of His nature, indwelt by his Spirit, and to be for all eternity His confidential and trusted companions, and the medium through which His behests should be accomplished. In connection with this vast plan it was incumbent that those who were to occupy such an exceptional place of nearness