

Man is "created in the image and after the likeness of God," in the same sense that the acorn is created in the image and after the likeness of the oak tree, for as the acorn develops into the oak tree, so man also develops into God. "I have said, ye are Gods, and all of you are children of the Most High; but ye shall die like men."—Psalms LXXXII, 6.

This great truth must be insisted upon just now, because it is just now that we must have "the manifestation of the sons of God," so long waited for; that is, thousands must now prove before God and man, that they regard the welfare of mankind with an interest at least equal to that with which they regard their own welfare. Any who actually do this, will manifest themselves to be "sons of God," or "the people of the saints of the Most High," to whom "the kingdom, and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven shall be given" at the time.—Dan. VII, 18, 27.

All animated beings in general, (from mice to men) evidently regard the welfare of their offspring with an interest similar to that with which they regard their own welfare; and it is essential that they should do so; otherwise the offspring could not safely be entrusted to the care, and control, of the parents, who are, in fact, the providence of God to their offspring.

In like manner, the care and control of all the nations comprehended in the human family, cannot safely be entrusted to any but those who prove by their conduct, that they regard the welfare of their fellow man with an interest similar to that with which they regard their own welfare; and so fulfil "the whole law" of God; as it is written, "the whole law is fulfilled in one word, even in this, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." This only becomes possible in these days, when our minds become sufficiently enlightened to perceive clearly that our own personal welfare is so intimately bound up with the welfare of the human family generally, that we cannot possibly benefit ourselves *permanently* except so far as we benefit the human family generally. This fact becomes sufficiently clear to us only when our view is extended beyond the present life, and we realize how that our efforts in favour of our fellow-men (in the very nature of things) tend to assimilate our minds to the mind of our Creator; and thus to qualify us for corresponding advantages, in the eternal life.

The nations of Christendom are supposed to pray to God daily, "thy kingdom come"; about as often as they pray, "give us this day our daily bread." They wisely take good care however not to neglect to exert themselves to provide their own "daily bread" by their own efforts. If they would now wisely also make corresponding efforts in favour of "the kingdom of God" upon earth; we should certainly very soon enjoy the incalculable advantages of that universal righteous government which would, of course, immediately abolish warfare, at once, and for ever; and henceforth utilize the wealth and energies of the nations, from generation to generation, for the abolition of ignorance,