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Gospel, we find distributed over all the ages, as a sort of dim shadow of the good things which were afterwards to be realised, it is impossible to suppose the ancient Hebrews could have been ignorant of, without doing violence to all our notions with regard to the purposes of Revelation, and the special end had in view in setting apart this peculiar people to be the favoured recipients of God's inspired truth. To imagine that they could be ignorant altogether of the knowledge of a future state, is really to suppose that, despite the Revelation which they had received, they were less informed upon one of the most essential features of the Revelation itself than those peoples who had nothing to guide them but their own natural faculties; a supposition which it is difficult to see how anyone can entertain, who has bestowed any thought upon the subject.

2.—Amongst the ancient heathen nations there is hardly one to be named by whom the doctrine of a future life is more conspicuously set forth than by the Egyptians. Probably the greater number of the most intelligent classes of this people in ancient times held the doctrine of Metempsychosis; but at no period of their history do we find them entertaining materialistic opinions. Whatever may have been the object had in view in that process of embalming the dead, which with them reached so high a degree of perfection, one thing is clear, that they never lost sight of the doctrine of immortality. This is evident from a variety of facts brought to light by modern investigations into Egyptology, through which we have obtained clearer views regarding the opinions of the Egyptians on the question of a future life than we possess respecting much more recent and generally speaking, much better understood nations. Alger remarks, in reference to this very question, "Three sources of knowledge have been laid open to us. First, the papyrus rolls, one of which was placed in the bosom of every mummy. This roll, covered with hieroglyphics, is called the funeral ritual, or book of the dead. It served as a passport through the burial rites; it contained the names of the deceased and his parents, a series of prayers he was to recite before the various divinities he would meet on his journey, and representations