

God shouted for joy?" Job, xxxviii, 4-7. To show what stress writers were put to in order to get over this passage, which clearly proves that the stellar system was not created on the fourth day of the Mosaic account of the creation, we may instance the explanation which Dr. Kalisch gives of the phrase "morning stars." He remarks, "But the 'stars of the morning,' (בֹּכֶר בְּקָר) can, in that poetical passage only signify the young, newly-created stars; and their origin would, therefore, not date back much beyond the Biblical age of the world, or about 6000 years, which contradicts all astronomical results."\*

This positive statement is made without one single proof that the word בֹּכֶר (*Boker*) morning, according to Scripture usage, may be used in the sense of *young* or *newly*; and for the best of reasons, as there is not a single instance in Scripture, or in any other Hebrew work, where it is used in that sense. If, indeed, every commentator were allowed to put such a construction upon a word as would suit his fancy, or favour a special opinion, of course the Scriptures may in this way be made to say anything, and every fancy be easily gratified, and every opinion, no matter how extravagant, accommodated. The stars, which in the above quotation are called "stars of the morning," or, as the English version has it, "morning stars," are in chapter iii., verse 9, again spoken of where they are called "stars of the morning twilight." But even supposing the Hebrew word בֹּכֶר (*Boker*) morning, would admit of such a meaning which Dr. Kalisch attaches to it, still it would require but a moment's reflection to discover the utter absurdity of the explanation which Dr. Kalisch attempts to force upon the passage. The "morning stars" must either have been created before the Mosaic ac-

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\* Commentary on Genesis, page 52.