

difficulty in finding, upon its rich and diversified pages, indications pointing to other worlds besides the terrestrial one to which we belong. We shall now endeavour to show this, as briefly as possible.

And we begin with stating that, in addition to our own race, the Scriptures make known to us beings of an intellectual and moral nature, much higher than ourselves, not indeed possessing material bodies such as ours, but spiritual beings. These are the *angels*, which however is a name not so much descriptive of their *nature* as of the *office* they fulfil,—the work in which they are employed as the servants of God. Angels signify those who are *sent forth, messengers*, to execute the good pleasure of the GREAT SUPREME.

Now, in these glorious and exalted creatures, we have inhabitants for at least one other world, perhaps for a large number of worlds. But it may be said here, we have just been told that they are spirits, and therefore they do not need a material abode like our globe. In reply let it be remarked, first of all, there is no small reason to believe that angels, though spirits, have some *sensible frame* connected with them, in which they exist and act. It seems to be the special prerogative of the great Spirit, God himself, to be an *absolute spirit*, without any adjunct. The frame belonging to angels is unquestionably very refined, just as the future glorified bodies of the redeemed from among men are called by the Apostle Paul *spiritual* bodies, compared with the present ones, which he calls *natural* or *physical* bodies. At any rate angels are *finite* or limited creatures, having nothing in their nature approaching to *omnipresence*, which distinguishes God alone. And however capable they may be of moving with amazing swiftness through the universe, in doing the behests of Jehovah, they can only be in one place at a time. Their home, properly speaking, must be a *local habitation*. Like the frame with which we suppose them to be invested, it may be *etherial* but still it must be *definite*, in a world adapted to them; and certainly God, whose power is almighty and his understanding infinite, is perfectly sufficient to give to all the orders of his creatures abodes suited to them. In these angels then we have, as has already been said, constituents for at least one world more than our own.

In connection with what has just been stated, the Scriptures inform us that there is another class, and a very numerous one, of angelic spirits, who were once holy, glorious, and blessed, but who, by transgression against God, even through pride leading them to aspire at being independent of Him, fell from their first state and were cast into Hell, where they are reserved in chains under darkness, to the judgment of the great day. That is now their world, their dismal and miserable habitation, and if they are permitted to make excursions for evil, under the present mixed system of things, they are compelled to return, and shall be shut up there forever, along with the condemned of mankind. And surely hell is not a mere imagi-