

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT.

(ITS MOSAIC ENUNCIATION.)

THOU SHALT NOT MAKE UNTO THEE ANY GRAVEN IMAGE, OR ANY LIKENESS OF ANYTHING THAT IS IN HEAVEN ABOVE, OR THAT IS IN THE EARTH BENEATH, OR THAT IS IN THE WATER UNDER THE EARTH: THOU SHALT NOT BOW DOWN THYSELF TO THEM NOR SERVE THEM; FOR I, THE LORD THY GOD, AM A JEALOUS GOD, VISITING THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHERS UPON THE CHILDREN UNTO THE THIRD AND FOURTH GENERATION OF THEM THAT HATE ME; AND SHOWING MERCY UNTO THOUSANDS OF THEM THAT LOVE ME, AND KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS.

Idol worship is an invention of man in an undeveloped or retrograde moral condition of life. The history of such an invention has its three stages, first the recognition of a certain phenomenon, physical, mental or moral; second, its personification; and third, the embodiment of the personified form or figure of speech as a reality. The Pelasgic races saw the daylight, personified it as