

were, with occasional intermissions of restitude, involved very generally in the idolatrous worship and rites, and sacrifices and observances of the heathen nations around them. I have thus noticed this subject, chiefly for the purpose of showing how very deficient Dr. Dawson is in knowledge of Scripture history. I have previously given instances of that deficiency as to Bible revelation generally, and will have to notice several others.

I must also remark on the statement of the Dr. in that long list of his fictions in a previous page, that Moses took the "peoples beliefs as the religious basis on which he had to work and on which he founded his theocratic system."

It is an invariable custom with infidel and skeptical writers on the laws and institutions, the facts and events and other parts of Scripture records, to speak of them as having been designed and effected solely by the persons named, as acting in their accomplishment without reference to any divine operations command or influence whatever. The Dr. has observed this course throughout his book when treating of Scriptural subjects. He says Moses took the "peoples beliefs" and makes *him* the founder of the system. Both these statements are utterly untrue, as the Dr. must know, if he has read the Scriptures on the subject; and if he has not read them he is equally culpable in making the assertions.

The people had no true "beliefs" in God, and his worship and service before their arrival at Sinai, where, under the most sublime and awful circumstances, He established and made known to them all the laws and institutions, sacrifices, ordinances and every part of that system. Moses of himself neither *designed* or *established* even the smallest particular of that system. He merely announced them to the people at God's command. Moses had no discretion or liberty, even as to a board, a curtain, a socket, or any other part of the tabernacle, or the dress of the priests, the number or time of the sacrifices, or even as to making the incense, or as to any part of the ritual services or observances. The divine command was given to Moses,—*"See thou make all things after the pattern showed to thee in the Mount."* And so he did. On every subject the Lord commanded him:—"Say to the people."

The Dr. has treated of these numerous subjects through eight pages under the heading:—"The Abrahamic Genesis." But certainly he has not furnished any Genesis by Abraham and, if he has shown one at all, it must be either that marvellous and frightful Genesis