

and goodness of the great Creator. Pride of intellect offers the highest insult to the God of Heaven; inasmuch as it is constantly questioning the truth, the justice, the holiness, and goodness of God; and, therefore, it has ever been, and ever will be, signally punished, even in this life. Let all those who proudly set their reason above the truth of God carefully study the following striking passage, and take warning before it be too late:—

“For the invisible things of him (God) from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. *Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools*, And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like unto corruptible man, and to birds, and to four-footed beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more (or rather) than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.”—Rom. i. 20—25.

All the ignorance, superstition, impurity, and cruelty of heathenism originally sprung from the pride of intellect. To all who indulge the pride of intellect the Bible is a riddle, an enigma which they cannot understand: “Because they seeing, see not; and hearing, they hear not; neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.”—Matth. xiii. 13, 14, 15. Those who will set their reason above the Word of God, and who will cavil at its statements, disbelieve its doctrines, and disobey its requirements, need not wonder if, “For this cause God should send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”—2 Thess. ii. 11, 12.