

its decisions were to rest upon the active works of those who were to stand before its tribunal. We would now know the precise time when the Court was to set, and the books were to be opened! Is it an event of the *future*, or of the *past*? We care not what the creed teaches, for this is human, and not entitled to the least respect, when we know its origin, and gross absurdities!

What saith the Scriptures? Let us read for ourselves. "When the Son of Man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, *then* shall he sit upon the throne of his glory, and all nations shall be gathered before him, and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. And he shall say unto them on his right hand, "Come ye blessed of my Father," &c.; but, to those on the left hand, "Depart ye cursed," &c.

Here, it is affirmed that all this is to take place "*when* the Son of Man shall come with his angels." Now, do the Scriptures give us any information upon this question? When was the Son of Man to come with his angels? Let us shut up the creed, and open the New Testament and read for ourselves.

Turn to Matt. xvi. 27, 28, and read from Christ's own lips: "For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of his Father, with his angels, and *then* he shall reward every man according to his *works*. Verily I say unto you, there be some standing here which shall not taste of death till they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

This is pretty direct testimony that the judgment of which our texts form the conclusion, took place a great while ago, for it was to be *when* the Son of Man should come in the glory of his Father, with his angels, which he affirmed *positively* should be during the natural lives of some of the men to whom he was addressing himself!

We might rest satisfied here. One saith the Lord should be sufficient to establish our faith. But, we wish to confirm every word of Divine testimony by its frequent repetition under different circumstances.

In this very discourse of our Saviour in which our texts are found, and in direct answer to the question as to the *time* and signs of his coming to execute judgment, he has repeatedly intimated that the *time* was near at hand, and once, *directly* told them "the generations then living should not all pass away before he should come. Matt. xxiv. 34.