

The teaching of our Lord and the Apostles.

division into days. We shall find in the sequel that the same idea is contained in the teaching of our Lord, and of the Apostolic Epistles, and was familiar to the primitive Church. That we may fully understand the bearing of these facts on the Sabbath question, it will be necessary for us to consider in some detail a doctrine common to the teaching of the Word of God, and of natural and physical science, and which we may designate as the doctrine of "*time-worlds*," or of worlds existing in ages of time as distinguished from "*space-worlds*," or worlds considered merely as of certain dimensions, and existing in space.

The doctrine of "*time-worlds*" common to revelation and science.

When we speak of the world or the universe, the ordinary hearer has perhaps before his mind merely the idea of bodies occurring in space ; and the vast discoveries of modern times as to the distances and magnitudes of the heavenly bodies have contributed to fill the minds of men with conceptions of the immensity of space, perhaps to the exclusion of another direction of thought equally important. Worlds must, however, exist in time as well as in space. This idea is very familiar to the mind of the geologist, who traces the long history of the earth through successive periods, and also knows that each succeeding age has seen it different from its condition on those which preceded it. This consideration is also before the mind of the physical astronomer, who

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