

renewed or elevated to a higher plane. That is the difference between the creative power of man and the creative power of God. Man being after God's own image, is endowed with similar powers, but they are only material powers in this world. A realization of that fact should make the Atheist look farther afield for wisdom than the materialism he caresses himself in, which shuts him out of the realization of the future life which must inevitably be faced.

In two periods of the world's history has the spiritual power of God been directly planted in man: through Adam and through our Savior. That latter spirit has to be imparted to the whole world through the influence of the Bible. The Atheist may refuse to acknowledge those facts, but he cannot do away with them. The waters of mighty Niagara may dry up, but the influence of the Bible can never cease. God's creative powers are material and spiritual; he alone gives life, with the natural force of reproduction. Animal and vegetable life are endowed with the power of reproduction—a life-giving power which alone rests with God. Science will develop the intellectual power of man, and his creative power will ever be on the increase, but it will fall short of the attribute which alone pertains to the Almighty—namely, the power to impart life in this world, whatever the next may develop.

Although the Bible is the bugbear of the Atheist, it is stored knowledge of a divine character, and the history of the world has proved the correctness of its revelations. The fact that one set of men takes one portion of the scriptures for their guide, and a second set takes another portion under divine guidance and in the name of religion, is no argument against the spiritual life contained in its pages; nor is the Bible weakened by the fact that all those men do not show in their lives the influence or power of their knowledge. To say that one body adopts one system of imparting the knowledge of the Bible, or interprets it to fit their doctrines, and that another body adopts another system and another interpretation, is no guide to the critical Atheist. The Bible is the bulwark of Christianity. It is the light of the world to those who search all its pages. It alone keeps alive the spiritual life in man. That spiritual life goes on through generations, growing upwards or growing downwards, until it passes into eternity in one state or the other. The spiritual life that was born with man, though killed by a vicious life, may be quickened at any period by a returning consciousness of good and evil and the saving power of a Savior, and may pass into eternity to live for ever. The Atheist calls upon the world to alone regard the

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