

instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." We may, therefore, safely connect the words of Moses, the Prophets, and Psalmist with those of Jesus and His Apostles, and their *united* testimony will settle the point at issue. The Doctor continues :—

"Suppose, now, that some individual, unacquainted with the disputes that have arisen among Christians, were to take up the New Testament with a view to ascertain the purposes of God with regard to the final destiny of mankind, to what conclusion would he come? Would he not infer, naturally and necessarily, that there is no hope for those who die in a state of ungodliness? However unwilling he might be to entertain the thought, and however repugnant it might be to his benevolent feelings, would he not be compelled to confess that it is the obvious teaching of our Lord and His Apostles?"

Without doubt any unbiassed reader of the New Testament would reach the conclusion that there was no hope for the finally perished, for there is none set forth in that book; but we beg to remind the Doctor that this is not the *real* point at issue. The question is *not*, Will the wicked be punished? but "Will they be *ever* of the Wicked?" *i. e.*, will they *die*, or, as the Doctor would have it, be "annihilated;" or will they suffer *eternal torments*—be always dying, and never dead—ever burning, and never burned. *This* is the point, and let every reader give it his undivided attention; and if the Doctor is pleased to leave his work to give chase to our Universalist friends, or the French Revolutionists, wait patiently until he returns to the pursuit of his *real* object. He continues :—

"Would such a reader dream of anything else? Could he imagine that the awful words of the holy volume can bear any interpretation differing materially from that which is found to prevail among the vast majority of Christians?"

We conclude that "such a reader" would "imagine" it better to take the "clear and decisive statements" of the Word of God as they stand, rather than adopt the blasphemous interpretation suggested by Dr. Benson, and mainly approved by the "vast majority" of orthodox interpreters! Listen to him: "God is present in hell in His infinite justice and almighty wrath, as an unfathomable sea of liquid fire, where the wicked must drink in everlasting torture. The presence of God in His vengeance scatters darkness and woe through the dreary regions