

have his own infinite heart of love supremely set and centred upon his own glory. This glory which Jehovah seeks as an ultimate end is, as we understand it, just another name for the manifestation of his own being and glorious perfections to the view of all moral beings.

There is self-love here, *supreme self-love* we freely admit, but we fearlessly maintain that there is no selfishness. In the very nature of things the infinite, all-perfect, all-glorious One, cannot love any other being as he loves himself. He cannot desire the same honour to be given to another which is due to him alone. There are many things which God cannot do; and surely the following are among the number: He cannot lie; He cannot deny himself; He cannot give his glory unto another. No, he cannot; and this is the reason why he seeks in all that he does, above all things else, his own glory as an ultimate end.

Were God to desire that a created being should receive the same honour, and homage, and glory that is due unto himself, he would desire that creature to receive infinitely more than his due. He who is the only infinite, and the absolutely glorious One, can neither undeify himself nor deify the creature. "Is there a God beside me? Yea there is no God; I know not any." Now, since there is no other God, it follows as a necessary consequence that his glory he will not, his glory he cannot, give unto another.

This was the grand and the glorious end which the Unmade Maker of all things had in view when he gave existence to the volume of *creation*. The chapters, and pages, and paragraphs of that great book were all written by the finger of the great unseen, to reveal his glorious character.

When the fields of immensity were peopled with planets, and suns, and systems, they took their place on the map of the universe at the bidding of their Almighty Maker, and the end which he contemplated in their creation was the manifestation of himself. He takes pleasure in beholding the workmanship of his hands, and there is a sense in which it is true that creation is a revelation of himself to himself. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." All the material universe, from the most insignificant grain of sand to the greatest globe in space are revelations of God, and speak of his glory.

But I wish you more particularly to notice that when God gave existence to *intelligent beings*,—when he made minds,—the