

of governments and the issues of false conduct in individuals are so described. Any truth, therefore, which they address to our intuition and the existing state of our culture, we receive, not because they deliver it, but because it is truth, and we find a response to it in our own development. Here, as everywhere, we must distinguish between the human and divine.

Let it be remembered that Jesus never wrote a book, and that we have his teaching in the imperfect language of his times, and we will have no difficulty in finding the origin of the crude idea of God and absurd notions of the future that still cling, as the debris of revolutionary ages, to many of our churches, who in profession at least, receive the Scriptures only too liberally.

When Mr. Ferguson avers that "A being of absolute goodness cannot form a creature for unending wretchedness," he can be understood without an interpreter. Now it is to be regretted that Rationalism and that peculiar limb of it called Universalism are always chargeable with irrationality in making and combatting propositions whom no man on earth—Turk, Jew, or Christian—believes. "Form a creature for unending wretchedness"—! Such a sentiment, couched in such language, we expect to find when infidels in their own wise wisdom attempt to caricature the God whom Christians worship. Who ever yet found a thorough bred Infidel or a full grown Rationalist join issue on any proposition believed in or maintained by a man of faith? of faith in Jesus the Lord?

The gracious Parent who created the universe never formed a creature for either ending or unending wretchedness. All that came from his forming hand was "Good," and harmony, happiness, holiness were included in this term that characterized the Divine handiwork. God created man a noble being, modeling him after the noblest of all models—himself; and it would be just as rational Rationalism to assert that the Great Father planned and arranged unhappiness for himself, as to argue that he created man for wretchedness either with end or without end.

Let us re-vamp and trim up the declaration thus, "A being of absolute goodness can form a creature for ending wretchedness," and send it back to Nashville for acceptance. What say you, friend Ferguson? Will you endorse? If you do not perceive that this is your logic, theologized, it is far too evident that your organs of vision are filmy. And what a character does this Rationalism give to the "Father of Mercies:" he did create, says Universalism, a race of intelligent beings for wretchedness!! but, blessed *universal* benevolence, he arranged in their creation that their wretchedness should endure only for a limited period!!!