

Ignoring the patent fact that he is just as responsible for the ancient belief in a literal fire and brimstone hell as any modern preacher is, he misrepresents all Christian teaching on this point to-day and poses as a Hebrew and Greek expert in order to mislead his followers as to the teachings of Scripture upon this point. In flat contradiction of all scholarship he asserts that the original words "Sheol" and "Hades" never mean anything but "the grave" or "oblivion," thus teaching that death "is a period of absolute non-existence," and that the finally impenitent are annihilated. Thus the resurrection is, according to him, nothing less than a re-creation (Vol. 5:329-347), and in order to prove his position he distorts St. Paul's great passage on the resurrection of the body in I Cor.: 15, till he makes the Apostle teach "that the dead are perished like brute beasts until God will resurrect them."

The Christian doctrine of the Trinity which has always been held sacred, and which is simply an attempt to express in human, and, therefore, inadequate terms, the Church's faith in the richness of the personality of God as revealed in both Scripture and human experience, is attributed to Satan by this modern oracle who also takes forty-five pages to prove that the Holy Spirit is only an influence or power of God the Father.

### *The Climax of His Absurdity.*

In the space at one's disposal only the briefest mention can be made of his doctrine of Christ which seems to be the climax of his absurdity. It is a combination of Gnosticism, Arianism, Annihilationism and other more modern heresies. He teaches that Jesus was a created spirit-being, an angel presumably, who became only a man at His birth—thus denying the Incarnation. He lived as a man, died as a man.; His body never rose but supernaturally disappeared, being "probably dissolved into gases"—therefore no resurrection. At His death "the man Christ Jesus suffered for us death in the most absolute sense of the word—everlasting destruction" (Vol. 5:466). "The man Jesus is dead, forever dead" (5:454). "The soul of our Lord Jesus went into oblivion at death" (5:362). These and other passages plainly assert the absolute annihilation of Jesus Christ. He was "utterly destroyed." "It was necessary that the man Christ Jesus should never live again, should remain dead to all Eternity," therefore when the Christ appeared the third day, He was not "this same Jesus," "no longer a man," but a re-created "spiritual being of the highest order," "a god," "a mighty one," "Michael the Archangel" (Vol. I: 179-211; 5:55-86). And "the little flock" at their resurrection are to be like Him, "no longer human," but divine, with "the divine nature and form" in superlative degree! And all this in the face of John I.:20-21; Rom. 9:5; I. Tim. 3:16; Col. 2:9; Phil. 2:6; Acts 1:11; 1 Tim.: 2:5 and scores of similar Scriptures.