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Matte:16:26. For what <sup>is a man</sup> shall it profited him, if he shall gain the whole world, & lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

The kingdom had long since departed from Israel; - & the long race of ~~royalty~~, illustrious for their descent from the man after God's own heart, in ceasing to tread in his steps, had also ceased to sit upon his throne. The scourge of ~~foreign~~ a distant conqueror had <sup>formerly</sup> driven ~~the people~~ them from their native land, - to which after twenty years, a remnant had returned & rebuilt the temple of their God, & re-established the institutions & the worship of their fathers. But they were for the most part, without a head, without unity, & without means, - &

hence they became in turn the prey of every great, & of every petty conqueror, who chose to direct his course across their territory, - until at length they fell within the ~~flame wide~~<sup>the</sup> & relentless grasp of Roman power. They were now deprived of all their civil rights & privileges, - were made the tributaries of a distant & haughty people, & were dependent for their liberties, & for their lives indeed, on the will of a governor selected at Rome, - unacquainted with their language, their customs & their laws, - & regarding <sup>equally</sup> ~~as~~ with derision the nation whom he was sent to plunder. It was in this state of absolute slavery, - where they had apparently reached the very lowest <sup>grade</sup> of civil degradation, - that they were hoping & looking for the accomplishment of the prophecies of their scriptures, which pointed to them a glorious era, - when a Star should come out of Jacob, & a sceptre should rise out of Israel; (Num. 24:17) - & they believed the days had come, when the Lord had promised that he would raise unto David a righteous Branch, & a King should reign prosper, & execute judgment & justice in the earth, - in whose days Judah should be saved & Israel should dwelle safely? (Isa. 23:5,6) — and they had turned their eyes on Bethlehem as the place where that One should come forth, who was to be the ruler of Israel; (Mic. 5:2) who was to stand feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God, - & who was to be great, unto the ends of the earth. (Mic. 5:4)

It was the great & fundamental error of the Jews, in all their expectations, ~~says~~, that <sup>they believed</sup> the Messiah who was thus to appear in their behalf, was to be a temporal Prince & Saviour, who ~~would~~ deliver them from the power of the Romans, & make of them

a mighty nation, & lord over all the earth. They thought he  
~~in that he was~~<sup>it</sup> was, & ride forth in his chariot, conquering & to conquer, (Rev. 1.2.)  
breaking his enemies with a rod of iron, & dashing them in pieces  
like a potter's vessel: - and so deeply were they imbued with this  
spirit, - among the high & the low & the rich & the poor - that when  
Jesus appeared, the Son of a humble mechanic, ~~born~~<sup>educated</sup> & destitute & des-  
pised city, - and claimed to be the Messiah, - the deliverer of nation  
& the King of the Jews - he was looked upon with contempt - and  
when by the mighty works & wonders which he wrought, he produced an  
conviction in all minds that he was indeed a teacher sent from God (Joh. 3.2)  
& multitudes began to flock unto him, & to follow him, ~~as a temporal~~  
~~Prince~~, - yet all this time they followed him as a temporal prince,  
who was to restore the independence & exalt the power of their nation;  
- and even when he had chosen to himself twelve individuals, who  
were to be with him, & minister unto him, & he instructed in his doctrine  
~~to spread~~<sup>to propagate</sup> it in the world, - ~~but~~ even they could not be ~~persuaded~~  
but that the Master whom they followed, was soon to have all power  
on earth as the Lord of a mighty empire, - & that they should receive  
the outpouring of his earthly bounty, & be the chief ministers of his  
authority. So very late as forty days after his resurrection, when he  
now on the point of ascending in glory to his Father, these twelve cho-  
notwithstanding ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> prophecies & other declarations which Christ had made thru  
sen disciples, - still hoping for & fearing the enjoyment of temporal  
rewards & blessings, - plainly put the question in a body, - "Lord, will  
thou at this time restore again the kingdom unto Israel?" So diffi-  
cult is it, <sup>to eradicate</sup> for the prejudices of the unenraged heart ~~to be eradicated~~; - im-  
planted as they often are by education, & cherished by a spirit of <sup>habit &</sup>  
self <sup>complying & pride</sup> ~~conceit~~. The H. S. - it must be remembered, - ~~had~~ <sup>had</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>yet been</sup> given.

It was against this deeply-rooted prejudice, among his countrymen & immediate followers, <sup>that</sup> a very considerable portion of our Lord's public ministration was directed. It was one great object to convince them that his kingdom was not of this world, - that he came to bear witness of the truth (John. 18:37), to erect a kingdom <sup>only</sup> in the hearts of men which should continue beyond this world, & endure ~~forever in this world~~. He taught that whosoever became heirs of this kingdom, must be prepared to ~~desire~~ give up all things here, - to forsake the wealth & the honors, & the power & the influence, & the pleasures <sup>you even must thine</sup> of the ~~affection~~ <sup>of</sup> this world. 'He that longeth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; & he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me: - and he that taketh not his cross & followeth after me, is not worthy of me. (Matt. 10:31,38.) Every one that hath forsaken houses or brethren or sisters, or father or mother, or wife or children, or lands for my name's sake, shall receive an hundred fold, & shall inherit eternal life' (John. 14.29). [This endless state of being, - this life beyond the grave, Jesus was the first to unfold, - & to proclaim the worthlessness of all things <sup>else</sup> in comparison <sup>with</sup> securing an immortality of blessedness, - & avoiding an eternity of woe. The Jewish prejudice of which we have been speaking, & the general scope of the teaching of our Saviour, is no where more strikingly illustrated, than in the latter part of the chapter from which our text is taken, (verses) Matt. 16: 21-27.]

The sentiment which we deduce from our text, - & which it will be the object of the present discourse to unfold & elucidate, is, the inestimable worth of every human soul. We shall endeavor to illustrate this sentiment by several considerations, drawn both from this world & from the next. Eternity.

I. We infer the value of the human soul, from comparing it with every living thing around us.

~~Soliloquy~~

When we take a survey of the universe, we perceive in all its great divisions, & gradations of magnitude, ~~of subtlety, of beauty, & of splen-~~  
~~of power.~~  
If we limit our view to the globe on which we dwell, we find in all that meets our observation, a similar arrangement. From the meanest vegetable which makes its home in the mountainous <sup>brown</sup> ~~summit~~, I can scarcely be distinguished from the rock on which it clings, - to the lofty tree which forms with its luxuriant boughs, a <sup>wide</sup> & grateful canopy, - & perhaps annually pours forth its profusion of beautiful blossoms, - & perhaps annually ripens its stores of pleasant refreshing fruit; - we find the wide interval occupied by ~~variety~~ other plants & other trees, of such endless variety that no two <sup>thee</sup> have ever yet been, or ever will be found possessing an exact resemblance. As we pass onward to the animal kingdom, <sup>from</sup> ~~that~~ the animal flower, attached to the rock, of the ocean, & hardly differing ~~from~~ ~~so~~ from a vegetable production, up through the long connected chain of insects that flutter in the breeze, & of reptiles that crawl upon the ground, & of fish that swim the sea, & of birds that ~~elevate~~ the air, & of beasts that cover the earth - we are constantly progressing & ascending, - till at length <sup>to mortal eyes</sup> the long series terminates in man. Man is the lord of this lower world; and ~~while~~ his dominion extends over the earth, & over the air, & over the waters. While all these various classes, of vegetable, of insects, of reptiles, of fish, of birds, & of beasts, - in ~~all~~ their locations, their propensities, their habits & their <sup>of their various</sup> ~~instincts~~, - all proclaim the hand of God, & the intelligence of their creator, - <sup>while</sup> the more minutely & distinctly they are considered, - the more strikingly do they declare the wonders of his wisdom & of his power & of his works;

- shall the soul of man, - the only existing thing upon this globe, that can appreciate the ~~hand~~<sup>grandeur</sup> of creation, & apprehend the magnificence of invention & combination <sup>so largely</sup> scattered around him, - shall this not be a thing of value, <sup>of interest,</sup> to the sight of men, of angels, & of God?

It may not be unprofitable, my b<sup>n</sup>, to dwell for a moment on a few of the particulars, wherein the superiority of man <sup>the rest of</sup> created nature consists; - because the more we <sup>reflect</sup> in our place in the scale of being, & compare ourselves with all that is around us, the more are we led to look through nature up to nature's God; - & to acknowledge the duties which flow from the relations in which we are placed toward him.] We will not enter into the metaphysical distinctions which draw the line of separation between the instinct of brutes & the reason of man - but <sup>will</sup> only glance at <sup>2 or 3</sup> of the most obvious & important <sup>attributed</sup> ~~faculties~~ to which man is indebted for his eminence as lord of creation.

1. The first <sup>which</sup> we would <sup>adduce</sup> is the power of invention; by which we have <sup>acquired</sup>, the power of discovering & employing means, for the attainment of any proposed end. <sup>discovering the relations of things, & from these by Conclusions of reason, deducing</sup> <sup>reputations</sup>; i.e. of deducing particular inference from particular facts; - or general conclusions from a multitude of particulars. No <sup>adduce</sup> power the first place in our division, because it is that from which spring all the distinguishing characteristics of the human soul. In the great mass of the brute creation, it will be acknowledged <sup>beyond the sphere of instinct</sup> that nothing of the kind can be discovered; & in those rare in-

stances which are by some supposed to mark an approach to the reasoning faculty, — we believe that <sup>perhaps</sup> nothing has ever transpired, <sup>except</sup> ~~which may not be in the capacity of the fox, the trick of the monkey,~~ or the half-reasoning of the elephant, which may not satisfactorily be accounted for, by a reference to their training, — or to the faculties of memory & imitation. Here then is an eminence on which man stands alone, & looks around him over the whole creation of suns & moons, stars, Earth, with its mountains & its vallies, its rocks & its sands, its minerals & its vegetable, & all that lives & breathes & moves, — & behold ~~disconnected~~ <sup>nothing</sup> isolated, — but all things connected & united as the parts of one great & <sup>wonderous</sup> ~~inconceivable~~ whole. He alone, while he looks backward on the past & forward on the future, can trace the chain which binds together the long & complicated succession of events

~~which take place~~  
~~around him, & from the experience of the past, predict~~  
~~in every case for a long time to come,~~  
~~the course of the succession for the future.~~ ~~by too & come.~~ In short, there is nothing under heaven, which man <sup>views</sup> ~~looks upon~~ entirely by itself. When ~~any thing whatever becomes the~~ <sup>any thing whatever becomes</sup> an object of attention, he immediately compares it with some other object, — or he views it as preceding or succeeding some other object, — i.e., as being either a cause or effect.

\* It is this faculty which has from the source of all the discoveries which have been considered as <sup>interesting</sup> ~~important~~ to much dignity, & the human intellect with so much dignity. It is by this faculty, that the relations of mathematical truth have been <sup>explored</sup> ~~to~~ any extent which is utterly inconceivable <sup>to</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>power</sup> ~~means~~ of mankind; — it is <sup>from</sup> this, that the mind of man has been enabled to rise to the heavens, & detect the laws by which the planets, even the sun, & other stars & other systems, are

governed in their orbits, & move through them appointed courses in  
harmonious ~~arrangement~~. It is this faculty which has enabled man to  
investigate the laws of light, & of vision, so beautiful, & so interesting, &  
~~to explore & determine~~ by which he can explain whence <sup>is derived</sup> the radi-  
ance of the bow of heaven.] In short it is this which puts it in  
his power to wander at will among the wonders of nature, & day  
after day & year after year to detect, & explore, & determine new relations,  
~~other~~ <sup>unknown before</sup> links in the chain which binds the universe together, which  
after all its convolutions returns & terminates at the place whence it went  
forth, - even at the <sup>eternal</sup> throne of God.

But the most important distinction which this faculty gives  
~~the soul of~~ to man over the brute creation, is the power of deducing from all  
that he sees, & from all that he knows, - the existence of God. To him  
~~an all that is around him or / the world of~~  
who reflects for a moment, even on his own existence alone, the conclusion  
is irresistible, that there is a something, which we see not, & which is  
yet the intelligent cause of all that we behold. To this something,  
- this intelligent first Cause, we give the appellation of God. Here then  
is a momentous deduction, which is universal among men, - but which  
no other living thing in this world ever has attained or ever can attain.  
See ~~the~~ the human soul stands alone, - <sup>stands the</sup> is thus betwixt the world of mat-  
ter & the world of spirit, - <sup>stands</sup> the connecting link between earth & heaven. ~~The~~  
~~Power of making this deduction stands a value on the human soul~~

From the existence of God, His character as the Creator & Govern-  
or & preserver of all things, are derived at once the duties of love & grate-  
fulness & worship, on the part of all ~~material~~ beings. The power of com-  
prehending & of rendering these duties on this globe, belongs only to

the human soul, - I stamp on this world a value in the sight of God, of angels, - & we fair would add, - of men, - beyond the value of all the material creation. If God has thus created man, with all these powers & faculties, he must take pleasure in the exercise of them, & in receiving the returns of love & gratitude & worship from the objects of so much care, & the recipient of so much beneficence. In this respect man is the sole representation of the lower world. All things indeed <sup>now beneath the [upper]</sup> praise him, - but all things else are ~~merely~~ passive - while man alone is active. - "The heavens, indeed, declare the glory of God, & the firmament sheweth his handy work; day unto day utters speech, & night unto night sheweth knowledge; nor is there any speech nor language where their voice is not heard." (P. 14. 1-3)   
 See, - fire & hail, snow & vapour; stormy winds fulfilling his word; mountains & all hills, fruitful trees & all cedars; beasts & all cattle, creeping things & flying fowl, - all join to praise the Lord. (P. 148. 8-10)   
 Nor is there to the reflecting mind, an object on this earth of more delightful contemplation, than that general burst of joy & exultation which is heard from every grove & field & sea; - from <sup>the whole</sup> congregation of uncreated nature, - in the season of Spring; - when fields, trees & animals are awaking Springing into renovated life & vigor. It seems as if it were the universal chorus of creation, pouring forth from the fullness of their joy, the praises of their God. Nor can we doubt that the God of love & mercy delights in these praises, - <sup>considered only in his present interest of the globe.</sup> in as much as they bespeak the happiness of his creatures. But to man it pertains, to offer a nobler tribute: It is his, to worship God, because he knows that God exists, & has created him, & preserves him, & surrounds him with comforts & blessings, - <sup>whose</sup> God has elevated him above the beings by which he is surrounded, & has made him in his own image, & <sup>by setting him up</sup> Lord of the lower world. ] 3.

The ~~estee~~ consider this power of knowing God, & of rendering him a vol-  
untary homage, as the most important, & the most sublime charac-  
teristic of man, - considered merely as an inhabitant of this earth.  
This power is the result of the faculty which we have mentioned - dis-  
cerning the relations of things.] But there are various other important  
faculties, which distinguish man from the brute creation, & go to enhance  
the value of the human soul, - all of which, <sup>they do</sup> ~~as if not~~ immediately re-  
sult from the one which we have <sup>already</sup> ~~considered~~, - are yet most intimate-  
ly connected with it.]

(1. The first which I would draw your attention, - is the power  
of employing instruments for the attainment <sup>any proposed</sup> of particular  
~~purpos~~ object; - whether of speculation, or of practice. The solution  
of a ~~Scientific~~ proposition of intellectual or moral science, & the pro-  
duction of an effect ~~in~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~material~~, as in the material world, or in the  
conduct of our fellow beings, - demand different instruments indeed, - but  
they demand that these instruments should be applied in the same man-  
ner, & under the direction of the same faculty of the soul. In this  
faculty also, beyond the sphere of instinct, the brute creation are utterly de-  
ficient. The beaver indeed erects his dam, & builds his house, - but  
he does it <sup>only</sup> from the ~~same~~ principle which leads the bird & huts her  
animal nest. But the invention of man, & the power of his soul  
are conspicuous in the adaptation of means for the accomplishment  
of his purposes. By availing himself of the laws of light & of vision,  
he has, by his inventions, enabled himself to <sup>discover</sup> millions & mil-  
lions of shining orbs, beyond the utmost limits of ~~the human~~ <sup>the</sup> eye  
of man, & to direct ~~the path~~ of a ship through the pathless tracts of

ocean, by the motions of stars ~~indiscernable~~ to the naked eye. He has subdued nature & his service, I made the elements his ministers. The winds waft his fleet & carry ~~com~~ corner of the globe, — the waters by their force give motion to his most ponderous & complicated machines, — & of late, by the combined action of water & fire, he has brought into his service a power more stupendous than either of the former, & which promises to supersede the use of the other elements of nature. But why, my brether, do we ~~admire~~ upon these things, — or why compare the beings who are capable of producing these effects, with the race of animals <sup>so infinitely below them</sup> ~~accorded~~? — Because this very comparison enhances the magnificence of these results, — & by reflecting on the ~~numerous~~ <sup>afflicting</sup> ~~difficulties~~ <sup>difficulties</sup> you are possibly reminded of the value of ~~those~~ souls that we witness now, & of the greatness of that Intelligence which has created you, & which preserves you.

[2. Another particular, in which the soul of man is elevated far above the brute creation, <sup>[Of all these particulars, the most important perhaps]</sup>, consists in the fact, that in all its ~~faculties~~ <sup>the soul marshes the power of being</sup> attainments ~~it is~~ <sup>is</sup> constantly progressive. Individual animals, by a long course of training, & by ~~putting in requisition~~ patiently & perseveringly operating upon their appetites & passions, & their faculty of imitation, have indeed been brought ~~in state~~ to perform many actions, beyond the ordinary habits & instincts of their race; — but they <sup>have always</sup> ~~are~~ been anomalous, & have exceeded their acquired powers only at the command of a master, — & never of their own accord. But animals when left to themselves make no progress in sagacity or instinct. What they are in one year, — that they are during all their years. Their instincts are varied by place & by climate, — but not by time. The reddest bird to his nest in our day, as he built it in the days of our fathers; — the dam & the dwelling of the beaver, have been the same in every age. But

compare the mind of the man in <sup>the</sup> vigorous life, with his mind in chil-  
hood, - or even in youth. Compare your own mind, <sup>as they exist at</sup>  
present, with what they were 10<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, or even 1 year since, - mark  
the multiplied accessions of ideas which you have received.] You may not  
have devoted your days & your nights to Study, - you may not be what the  
world terms learned, - in that sense which is stored away in the lumber-  
room of ages, - but you have that practical knowledge, which springs from  
necessity & observation, & which is of all others the most useful in the  
ordinary affairs of this world. How much of this knowledge are you  
constantly imbibing? [That day is lost indeed, in which you have ac-  
quired no new idea, either from observation, from reading, - or from your  
own reflections. Or compare the race of men in the present ~~day~~, with those  
in the dark ages, in their various discoveries & inventions, - the telescope  
with all their important consequences, -  
the microscope, the machinery, computers, & perhaps more than all is the  
art of printing - which diffuses among <sup>the mass of men</sup> that which before was  
confined to the few. ~~All these & the consequences which have flowed from them~~ <sup>they are all</sup> the results of the combined power of a  
multitude of minds. One follows after another, & each advances fur-  
ther than his predecessor, & thus all are constantly extending the cir-  
cumference of the circle of human knowledge.

This faculty of acquiring, knowledge, - this propensity to improve-  
ment, forms a <sup>important</sup> distinguishing characteristic of the human soul. It is this  
which calls into exercise, & gives a spring to, all the other faculties, - which  
causes ~~you~~ never to rest satisfied with his present attainments, - but to  
go on ~~desiring~~ <sup>exploring</sup> the hidden things of nature, & grasping, in his  
desires the past, the present & the future. It is indeed a power, which  
lifts him up from earth, & leads him to his God; - take it away, &  
you reduce him ~~almost~~ to level with the brute.

Our time, my brother, compels us to omit the consideration of many  
particular  
of the powers of the ~~lower~~ soul, <sup>as hypothetical</sup> & such as that of mutual intercourse - by  
which the most delicate shades of emotion, are transmitted from one  
bosom to another, - or spread out before the gaze of the aged & distant  
ages; - that social faculty which gives to man his highest earthly comfort - & the  
which depends <sup>on a great measure</sup> ~~on the~~ <sup>constant</sup> exertion of his capacity for improvement: \* we can  
only ~~turn~~ <sup>glance</sup> for a moment on the faculty of foresight. [This indeed is  
possessed in common by man, & by various tribes of insects & of animals,  
but with an important difference in its characteristics. In the one it  
is instinctive, - in the other, rational.] ~~& these do not~~ [not that by  
which the mind roams over futurity, & delights itself with dreams of happiness  
& wealth in golden hopes, as basely as those dreams. Of this <sup>we may</sup> ~~we have~~ on-  
ly ~~found~~ <sup>seen</sup>, that <sup>in extent</sup> hope is an inmate of only of the human  
soul, - for that alone does the ~~look~~ <sup>look out</sup> on the dark ocean before us, her  
midst yet animating beam, over the dark ocean of the future. But  
the foresight which we here intend is that which ~~leads~~ <sup>leads</sup> to active ex-  
ertion in order to <sup>make provision for</sup> lay up subsistence for the time to come.] <sup>foresight moreover</sup> 2. In the  
former it is limited to the ensuing winter, in the other it extends through  
life, - yea, to succeeding generations. The instinctive ~~fore-sight~~ <sup>fore-sight</sup> ~~leads~~ is  
found only in those classes of animals, which could not support exis-  
tence without it, & whose race would therefore perish with the year.  
<sup>that it is denied</sup> It <sup>is however</sup> ~~is not~~ from instruction, or from experience, - since the animal of this  
year's birth, abandoned almost from infancy by its parents, ~~leads~~ <sup>it is</sup> the  
~~high~~ <sup>high</sup> perfection as by those of greater age. It springs not from present feeling  
nor from the necessities of the present season, - but involves the idea of a fu-  
ture. This fact renders the particular instinct which we are now noticing,

a matter of deep & curious speculation. Other instincts are prompted by present wants. <sup>The fox digs his hole,</sup> The bird builds her nest, - & supply a necessity which is already felt. But here we behold an animal making provision against a want which he cannot now feel, - & of which, - unless you endow him with a soul, - he can have no possible conception. So ~~intuitively~~ our apprehension, this circumstance proclaims the immediate power of <sup>the</sup> Deity, perhaps more strikingly, than any other species of animal in ~~itself~~; - & leads us, <sup>from the analogy</sup> to estimate the <sup>importance</sup> ~~value~~ of ~~the soul~~ of man, in <sup>which</sup> this faculty is not the result of a direct impression, but ~~as~~ a consequence <sup>flowing from</sup> the exercise of other faculties, & other powers, which the God of nature has <sup>implanted in his breast</sup> ~~given~~ ~~and implanted~~ in him - that he might raise him above all the visible creation, - & prompt him to seek for himself the comfort, <sup>strength</sup> & ~~wants~~ of human existence, & enable him to fix his gaze, <sup>& turn</sup> his hopes, & place his affections, on another & a higher state of being, when this creature shall have put an incorruption, & the mortal, immortality.

[If then, my br., as in the rapid glance which we have taken, we come  
have the human soul with every living thing around us, in its capacity  
for discerning the <sup>natural</sup> relations of things] & if thus rising through multitudes  
of particulars, to general conclusions, - & looking abroad through <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~  
~~universe~~, & exploring the hidden things of creation, & estimating & admiring  
myself enjoying the wonders & the magnificence of wisdom & power as  
they did so profusely displayed, - & if ~~ascend~~ through them all to the  
existence of the attributes of <sup>God</sup> himself, - & of rendering to him the  
tribute of love & gratitude & adoration, - & if we regard the capacity of  
the soul <sup>for</sup> the adaptation of means & the accomplishment of partici-  
lar ends, - & for constant exertion & progress, in knowledge, - & for ~~its~~  
~~communicating~~ its perceptions & emotions, & for sending forth its thoughts over

the future, — <sup>if we consider</sup> all its thoughts, & its hopes, & its graspings of things past, & things present, & things to come, — [its power of looking beyond creation, & resting its contemplations on the Divinity itself — even if we limit our view to ~~the present existence~~, & suppose the soul annihilated at death, — we may well exclaim in the expressive language of our text, — what can a man give in exchange for his soul?]

II. we infer the value of the human soul, from the fact, that it is immortal.

The doctrine of the separate existence of the soul after the death of the body, & of the eternal duration of this existence, has been very generally received, among all the nations of the earth. Among the Philosophers of antiquity it was the topic of frequent & profound discussion: & it was <sup>probably</sup> established by them on ~~a~~ <sup>a</sup> foundation of probabilities, as human reason & capacity, unassisted by revelation, has ever been able <sup>to collect</sup>. Their chief arguments were drawn from the nature of the soul, as ~~and~~ <sup>it receives</sup> good from the effects which it is capable of producing — from its <sup>desires & its losses, & its longings, after immortality — from its</sup> powers & its capacities, — more particularly from its immateriality, — & its evident <sup>for it is immaterial, and they it can never die, — & how</sup> ~~tendency~~ <sup>progress</sup> ~~tending~~ towards a point of acquisition, to which there is every reason to believe it does not arrive in this life. What though, when age approaches, & nature decays, & the iron cord is loosed, & the golden bowl is broken, & the pitcher is broken at the fountain, & the wheel broken at the <sup>at such a time</sup> ~~fountain~~ — what though a cloud should rest upon the soul, & its perception should be dim, & its emotions faint & few, & it should wear the colours of decay, — is it not probable that when freed from its mortal tenement, & existing hence

+ advance in its acquirements to

of unnumbered, the souls will be resurrected & incorporated in all its power,  
enabled to make up & certain proper ~~to~~ <sup>a point favorable</sup>, beyond any assignable  
end. — Death says one of the Greek Philosophers, resembles sleep in  
this, — that <sup>in fact</sup> the soul partakes most of the divinity, — & often  
shoots forth into the future & foresees remote events — ~~like~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~water~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~future~~, — for then, say he, it is probable, that  
it is most free from restraint — most relieved from the shackles  
of its material prison. (Xen. Cypop. L. May. p. 82.) Such was the in-  
stance of the reasoning on the subject among Heathen nations, — &  
though it ~~proves~~ <sup>the</sup> nothing, — yet it was enough to create a practical &  
~~almost~~ universal belief.

It has often been matter of question, whether the Jews  
under the dispensation of the Old Testament, had any notion  
of a future state. Let one who reads his bible without aiming to  
~~support~~ <sup>to</sup> a system, it would seem evident that they did possess a  
some idea, at least, in regard to a separate state of existence, — However  
few & indistinct may have been their views of its character.  
Wher shall the dust return to thy earth? Is it not the spirit that returneth to God who gave it. (Ecc. 12. 7.)  
The word in the original, which in our translation is sometimes  
rendered hell, sometimes the grave, might more properly be trans-  
lated, the place of the dead, — & seems to signify a great hollow place  
under ground, — the abode of ~~all~~ the souls or shades of all who have  
ever died. [The Philosophy of the Jews, as well as of the Greeks & Romans,  
~~used to believe~~ taught them that the earth was a vast plain, — above it was the  
heaven, the dwelling place of God, — ~~beyond the solid firmament which~~  
~~was fixed in the original creation,~~ — beneath it, and opposite to  
the heaven, was the place of the dead. Hence, the prophet Isaiah  
exclaims, in that part of ~~that~~ <sup>public</sup> ~~sublime~~ denunciation against the king  
of Babylon, when he introduces the spirits of ~~decent~~ <sup>former</sup> kings, rising up to  
meet him: — “Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy com-

ing: it striketh up the dead, for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. All they shall speak day unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us? thy pomp is brought down to the grave, & the noise of thy viol; - the worm is spread under thee, & the worms cover thee. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cast down to the ground which didst weaken the nations. For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell to the sides of the pit. (Is. 14:9-15) [Here we have, at least, a representation of another state of being, - however little it may vary from those infernal regions, described in the poetry of the classic ages <sup>nations.</sup> In later ages, the laws appear to have caused their <sup>repealings</sup> concerning the soul, & to have <sup>borrowed</sup> ~~repealed~~ <sup>put up</sup> perhaps something from the Romans, to whom they were now under subjection; ~~in relation to them~~ so in the time of Christ, we are told of the two great sects which principally divided the nation between them, - ~~of which~~ the Sadducees <sup>who</sup> said there was no resurrection, neither angel nor spirit; ~~but~~ the Pharisees <sup>who</sup> professed both. (Act. 23: 8.)]

To them, however, who lived under the gospel dispensation, the question respecting the immortality of the soul, is set at rest forever. Jesus has descended from heaven, & brought life & immortality & light through the gospel. He has revealed <sup>(2 Tim. 1: 10)</sup> unto men that this corruption must put on incorruption, <sup>(I Cor. 15: 53)</sup> & that <sup>(Gen. 3: 19 & Luke 10: 38)</sup> the dead <sup>is</sup> not afraid of the living, for all live unto him, & they mortal must put on immortality. (1 Cor. 15: 53). The whole gospel

establishes just upon this fact; - & thencewards <sup>is the worth</sup> of the soul, as compared with every thing around us, the momentous & ennobling character, - <sup>alone of all things here,</sup> that it <sup>is</sup> ~~doth~~ <sup>exists</sup> forever. <sup>Importance of the</sup>  
<sup>contraries & neutrals - unalloyed virtue</sup>

III. The value of the human soul may be deduced from the circumstance, that <sup>the future state to which</sup> it is subject ~~is a future~~ <sup>is a</sup> state of endless reward, or punishment.

That this life is a state of probation, & that every soul of man will hereafter be recompensed according to the deeds done here in the body, - is the dictate of human reason, as well as the precept of inspiration. In this motto, 'tis evident that 'all things' come alike to all: there is one event to the righteous & to the wicked; to the good & to the clean & to the unclean: to him that sacrificeth & to him that sacrificeth not, as it the good, so is the sinner; he that sweareth as he that feareth an oath. This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event to all. (Eccl. 9:2.) Such indeed is the obviousness & the magnitude of this evil, that it was urged <sup>ever</sup> among the heathen, as a proof of the necessity of a future state, in which the actions of this life might receive a just recompence of reward or of punishment. So confirm & illustrate, I post home, upon the minds of men ~~the~~ <sup>the useful truth & consequences</sup> ~~fact, it~~ <sup>one great</sup> object of the revelation which we have from heaven.

The views of heathen nations on this subject were vague & confused, as the tribes by which they were entertained. One leading resemblance however runs through them all: the rewards of the future were to consist in sensual gratification, - the punishments, in animal pain. The ideas of the Jews appear also to have been indistinct; although one can hardly fail to be persuaded, that the idea of <sup>one kind of</sup> future retribution was familiar

to them. "Let us hear, says the Preacher, (Eccl. 12:13<sup>14</sup>) - the conclusion of the whole matter. See God & keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every ~~work~~<sup>worketh</sup> to judgment, on the day, whether it be good or whether it be evil." [The soul that sinneth, - saith the Lord by the pr. Ezekiel, - it shall die. (Ez. 18:4) - when a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, & committeth iniquity, & dieth in them, for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die. Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, & doeth that which is lawful & right, he shall save his soul alive. Because he considereth, & turneth away from all his transgressing that he hath committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.] (Ez. 18: 26-28.) That the brother cannot be here speaking of merely mortal life & death, must be obvious to ~~this~~ understanding of every one.

[The resurrection of the body would seem also to have been a <sup>subject</sup> of their contemplation; - since the Pharisees admitted it, - & Daniel affirms that "many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some everlasting life & some to shame & everlasting contempt. (Dan. 12:2.)] and Isaiah exclaiming, - "The dead men shall live, - with my dead body shall they arise. Awake & sing, ye that dwell in dust; for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, & the earth shall cast out her dead." (Is. 26:19) [These, & various other passages, would seem to be intimations, at least, - & we can call them nothing more - of that life, & that death, beyond the grave, which the gospel was clearly to unfold.

The gospel came, & the revelation <sup>which it brought lies above us in all its purity & truth</sup> ~~of its importance~~ <sup>is intended even now</sup> all its important consequences. These things are written, says the beloved Apostle, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, & that believing ye might have life through his name. (Joh. 20:31). This is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, & this life is in his Son. (1Jo. 5:11) The Saviour himself declares, - that God so loved the world as to give his only begotten Son, that

Jn. 3:16.

whoever believeth in him shouldest not perish but have everlasting life.  
The same sentiment is stamped on every page of the New Testament. On  
the other hand we are told by the Saviour, that he that believeth not upon  
the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him. (Jn. 3:18).  
St Paul declares that unto them that are contentious, & do not obey the truth,  
but obey unrighteousness, God will render indigation & wrath, tribulation  
& anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil. (Rom. 2:8,9) also 2 Thes. 1:9  
The only question which can conveniently be raised here, regards the extent of this future punishment.  
While the nice Thumble Ch<sup>r</sup>, who reads his bible to learn his duty & the  
will of God, - believes, I will believe, that the punishment of  
the wicked will continue forever, - there are others who affirm that it  
will not continue forever. It may suffice us here to observe, - that  
all the representations of the New T<sup>r</sup> make the sufferings of the righteous  
of the wicked, commensurate in their duration. If you go  
about to affirm, that the term translates eternal & everlasting, when  
applied to the punishment of the wicked, does not <sup>imply the term of</sup> mean endless duration,  
you must carry your principles of interpretation through,  
& admit that it does not <sup>necessarily</sup> mean endless duration, when applied  
to the life of the righteous. If you believe hole of its terrors, you must  
reject <sup>all that is dependent on it,</sup> heaven of its joys. The system of the gospel is a whole, made  
up of parts connected with & mutually dependent on each other. If you  
take away one of these parts, you take away <sup>But</sup> ~~the gospel~~ you take a-  
way the gospel. The future state of the righteous & of the wicked  
are uniformly represented by way of contrast, - their duration  
<sup>always</sup> denoted by the same word, - the epithets by which they are  
qualified are often the same, as to <sup>intensity</sup> magnitude; as to character,  
they are always opposite, & repulsive. If then you explain away all

those opinions which seem to imply an endless state of punishment,  
you do away, at the same time, the force of those which even & prove  
the endless state of happiness. You thus destroy all the hope of  
the Christian, — you throw a cloud, dark as the <sup>un</sup>beliefs of atheism  
over the future, — you make the gospel, which professes & brings life  
& immortality to light, to be <sup>but</sup> a mockery of the hopes & fears of the  
soul — you, you strip God himself of his attributes, & subject him,  
like yourselves to annihilation; — for the same terms which affirm that  
God exists forever, — are employed to mark the duration of the sin-  
ned <sup>down</sup> punishment.

[But, my b, such consequences can never follow from the lan-  
guage of the eternal word. we have only to apply the principle which  
dictates the terms eternal & everlasting, & their meaning, & convince  
its absurdity. "My sheep, says Christ, hear my voice & I know them, &  
they follow me; & I give unto them <sup>(Bonne vie pour)</sup> eternal life, & they shall never per-  
ish, neither shall any pluck them out of my hand." (John 28:29)  
According to the principle in question, this declaration must be read  
as follows. — & I give unto them long life, but not life without end; — &  
they shall not perish for a long time; — neither shall any pluck them  
out of my hand. This is one specimen, — he who faithfully applies  
the principle throughout, — will find that the whole tenor of the lan-  
guage of the scriptures is in direct & utter opposition to it: — <sup>that</sup> he must  
~~abandon~~ ~~give up~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ his <sup>rule</sup> of interpretation, or he must give up  
his Bible. —

We come then to the conclusion, that the human soul, in its  
present ~~state~~ of existence, is in a state of trial, — where opportunity is  
afforded of fixing its own character, & of thus determining its future  
condition: — that when the soul shall have shaken off the mortal

habiliment, - it will exist with higher power, & unclouded faculties,  
& will enter on a state of being, - a state of happiness or of woe,  
- in which there will be no change forever & forever. ~~The option~~  
~~is before us,~~ Our eternal portion is declared, - the option is be-  
fore us - & whatever we choose here, - whether it be eternal life  
or eternal death - that will the Judge award us. To all who  
are crowding through the narrow door which leads from time  
to eternity, the Saviour is proclaiming: He that is unjust, let  
him be unjust still; & he which is filthy, let him be filthy  
still; & he that is righteous let him be righteous still; & he  
that is holy let him be holy still: and behold, I come  
quickly: & my reward is with me, to give to every man accor-  
ding as his work shall be. (Rev. 22:11,12.)

Have we not now, nay ~~but~~, laid before you proof enough  
of the inestimable value of ~~that~~ soul which animates your bosom?  
in comparing it with every living thing around you, & certainly  
it to be the intermediate link between the visible & invisible creation?  
Is it susceptible of an immortal existence beyond the grave, - an existence  
which is to be forever joyous & forever miserable? Are there not motives  
enough in these considerations to induce you, to estimate your souls  
at their proper worth, & make their eternal welfare the first & the  
highest object of your <sup>constant</sup> exertion? If these are not, alas! - you would  
hardly be persuaded, though one rose from the dead!

**IV.** There is one more consideration, which goes to show the  
intrinsic worth of the soul in a very striking point of view: i.e., the  
deep interest which superior beings, Heaven had himself - have taken in

its <sup>immortal</sup> ~~steared~~ welfare.

God had great designs in the creation of the universe, - even the exaltation of his own glory, by a magnificent display of his own perfections. For this, the heavens & the earth, & all that in them is, sprang into existence, - & at the light, the morning stars sang together & the sons of God shouted for joy. (Job. 38, 7.). For this he made the earth, & the flowers of its fields, & the wonders of its power, & prepared it to be the habitation, & the empire of man. For this, he created man himself, a being of two natures, & destined to be the inhabitant of two worlds, - & placed him on the earth as its lord & proprietor, - that <sup>here</sup> he might unfold, exert, & improve those faculties & powers, - ~~the~~ <sup>accord</sup> ~~which~~ which God has implanted in his bosom, - that here he might acquire a knowledge of God, & <sup>impart</sup> ~~acquire~~ those principles, - & form that character, - which should determine <sup>forever</sup> his destiny in ~~the~~ other world, - ~~I say I in closed doors~~. But when man had transgressed the command of God, - & had impiously brought on himself a known penalty, - & was left without excuse, - then God began to manifest the interest which he felt, that the souls of men might be delivered from the penalty, & made partakers of immortal felicity. He held communication with them, guilty as they were, - & condescended to impart directions, by following which they might regain his favor. When men were still averse to his precepts, & repudiated instruction, despising their own <sup>(Prov. 15, 32)</sup> wills, had selected a family for his peculiar people, & became their Lord & their God, - their Lawgiver & the Judge, - their Father & their Friend, - & gave them prophets & rulers who were men after his

own heart, - who set before them in the one hand invitations & motions  
to obedience, - & on the other warnings & threats against departing  
from their God: & when all these manifestations of God's mercy, & good-  
ness were almost in vain, - he exclaims by his prophet, as if in aston-  
ishment at the result, - Hear O heavens, & give ear O earth: for the  
Lord hath spoken, I have nourished & brought up children & they  
have rebelled against me. The ox knoweth his owner & the ass his  
master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not  
consider. [Is. 1: 23] & another prophet he directs & say unto them,  
As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wick-  
ed: but that the wicked turn from his way alive: turn ye, turn ye  
from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel. [Ez.  
33: 11] But when all that God had yet done for man was  
not enough to incline him, - but even this favored nation set at  
nought all his counsel, & would none of his upbraidings, - & all the rest  
of the world, because they did not like to turn God in their knowl-  
edge, had long been given over to a reprobate mind - then it was  
that God <sup>condescended</sup> ~~determined~~ to make known the riches of his goodness & forbe-  
rance, & long suffering: - then it was that the eternal Son of God conde-  
scended & put on the veil of our infirmities, - & made himself of no  
reputation, & took upon him the form of a servant, <sup>was</sup> made in the  
likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled  
himself & became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross  
(Phil. 2: 7, 8.) - & all to save that soul, that dwells in the bosom of every  
one of us. <sup>If all</sup> ~~of this~~, my Dr, does not establish the value of the human  
soul - then God is nothing; & Christ is nothing; <sup>& you thereby prove nothing</sup> - & there is nothing beyond  
the grave, - & you have nothing to do but to eat & to drink, for tomorrow

you die & return to the nothing whence you sprung.

But all this is not so. God does exist, & Christ has indeed  
~~thus~~ <sup>now</sup> again, that the human soul may have an opportunity  
to ~~be blessed~~ forever. Christ came as a teacher sent from God, - & the  
great object of his teaching was, the value of the soul, &  
the means of its salvation. It is Christ himself who exclaims  
in the striking language of our text. - what doth it profit a  
man, if he shall gain the whole world, & lose his own soul?  
or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? what is  
indeed will be the value of all thy world's goods, & favors & smiles, when  
the body comes to lie down in the narrow house, & the soul goes  
away to stand before ~~the~~ Judge, & begins to apprehend its own  
worth? It is also Christ himself who affirms, that there is joy  
in heaven over one sinner that repents, more than over ninety  
thine just persons, who need no repentance: & again he emphatically repeats it, - There is joy in the presence of the angels of  
God, over one sinner that repents. (Luke 15:7, 10.)

In short if we look through the whole course of the mani-  
festations which God has made of himself in his works of crea-  
tion, of providence & of redemption - those splendid displays of  
magnificent perfections, - we find them all having reference  
to the soul of man - that compound being who belongs both to  
time & to eternity, & is the <sup>of man</sup> heir <sup>festive</sup> of <sup>your</sup> immortality, either of blis-  
siness or woe! ~~O that men were wise!~~ ~~O that they understood~~  
~~this, that they would consider their latter end!~~ (Deut. 32:39).

In this close our discussion, & if any of you, my dear, require  
more solemn or more powerful arguments to convince you of the value of your

of the boundless importance of securing our eternal salvation,  
Souls, you ~~must~~<sup>will find them where</sup> stand before the bar of God. These  
true truths will ~~burst~~<sup>rest</sup> upon you with overwhelming conviction, that  
the soul for which God has done so much, - the soul for which  
Christ <sup>has</sup> died, is not a thing to be <sup>lightly</sup> bartered for the pleasure of this  
world, - not a thing whose immortal welfare ~~may~~<sup>only</sup> be trampled under  
foot, or made the subject of ~~scandal~~<sup>scandalous</sup> contemptuation. "O that men were  
wise! - that they understood this! - that they would consider their  
latter end!" (Duet 32: 29.)

Oct. 10, 11, 12-26. 1822

In this subject, my brethren those of us who prefer to have un-  
derstood the value of our souls, - to have made our peace with God,  
- & thus to have secured our salvation, - ~~shall~~<sup>every man</sup> find matter of  
deep & earnest consideration of self examination. The most impor-  
tant question which we can put to ourselves on this side the  
grave, - that which comes home to our bosoms with the most  
overpowering interest, is this, - have we felt the full worth of our  
souls - have we certainly secured their immortal welfare.  
Prestige other, whether not less important will <sup>readily</sup> seem to hang in  
our situations & prospects - do we feel the full value of the  
bulk of the fellow men - do we make all the exertions  
in our power to promote their salvation. What answer  
can we give, may be, to these momentous inquiries? Have  
we not reason to fear, - have we not reason to acknowledge with

confusion of face that we have come short of our duty to God -  
to our fellow men, & to ourselves! O let us arise up from  
our number of death, - & come unto God with humble &  
broken hearts, - & pray for his grace, that we may  
have our own souls, & the souls of multitudes of every  
yet immortal being.

To you, my dear Sir, if <sup>the</sup> any present, - who  
have not yet felt the worth of your soul, - who have  
not yet even attempted to secure an interest in the Kingdom,  
beyond the grave, - on subject address itself  
with deep solemnity & dread. Your bodies, - now so  
vigorous & elastic w<sup>t</sup> the vigor of youth & of health,  
- those bodies must die, - I be laid in the grave, - & you  
dust must mingle with its kindred dust: - and  
then - your souls ! ! -

I would fain feel myself to be a dying man,  
- I would fain feel that I stand in the presence of my Maker,  
- I am thinking it his name: - I would fain feel that I must  
must stand before him, - & render an account, how  
I have this day spoken unto you. - I would fain fain  
speak to you, as to dying men - I would even now

of the infinite value of your souls, — I would warn you  
to turn from the error of your ways, & flee from the  
wrath which is to come, — & I do thus warn you, —  
so that if you will pursue the downward course  
& bring everlasting destruction on your immortal souls  
— your blood may not be upon my head!

(Do not go away & forget this warning, — Let it  
not be to you as the lovely song of one who hath a key  
and voice' (Ezek. 33.32.) — but remember, you are to give an  
account ~~before~~<sup>at</sup> the bar of God, for the manner in which  
you receive & act upon this warning.)

146 II 99  
Hence 32 II  
23 II  
28 II

Chow

\* It is this faculty which enables him to look back through the long lapse  
of <sup>time</sup> ages, & on the pages of history, to behold the character & the various mo-  
tions & actions of his race, - to trace the rise & fall of empires, & the motives &  
the purposes, & the performance, of those who have called themselves great upon the  
mortal scene - to travel up & down the highways of time, & might &  
identify himself with the men of other generations, & of other climes, of  
whose <sup>very being</sup> all other traces have, long ago, been blotted from ~~the world~~