

**BURNING QUESTIONS OF  
THE LIFE THAT  
NOW IS AND OF  
THAT WHICH IS TO COME**

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Burning Questions of the Life That Now Is and of That Which Is to Come by Washington Gladden

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**WASHINGTON GLADDEN**

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NOW IS AND OF  
THAT WHICH IS TO COME**



## BURNING QUESTIONS.

# BURNING QUESTIONS

OF

*THE LIFE THAT NOW IS,*

AND OF

*THAT WHICH IS TO COME.*

BY

WASHINGTON GLADDEN.

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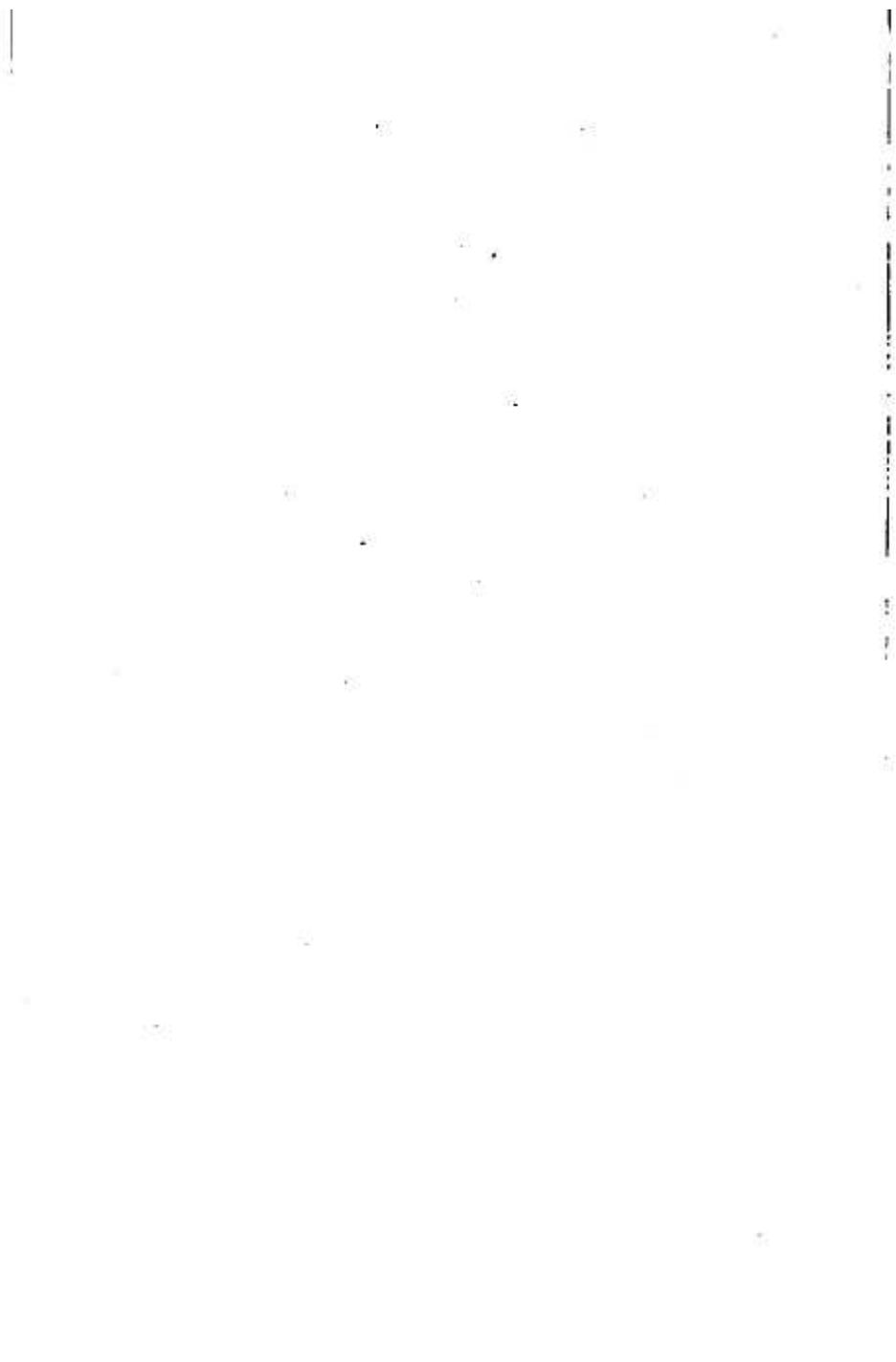


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I.

*HAS EVOLUTION ABOLISHED GOD?*

Let us take the sphere of Science—that is, of the knowledge of the physical world, which is chiefly in men's minds when they speak of science. Must we not admit that the discoveries which have been made in it have been to us real revelations or unveilings of God, and that their spiritual results have been of very great value? The immutability of His will is shown in the reign of law, so that a lawless scepticism is rendered all but impossible. The true position of man is also made clear, so that a check is placed upon wilfulness and presumption.

—CANON FREMANTLE.

What you want is not a system which may be adjusted to theism, nor even one which finds its most reasonable interpretation in theism, but one which theism only can account for. That, it seems to me, you have. An excellent judge, a gifted adept in physical science and exact reasoning, the late Clerk Maxwell, is reported to have said, not long before he left the world, that he had scrutinised all the agnostic hypotheses he knew of, and that they one and all needed a God to make them workable.—ASA GRAY.

## I.

### *HAS EVOLUTION ABOLISHED GOD ?*

**I**N one of Mrs. Browning's most striking lyrics she puts into verse the voice of that great cry which is said to have swept over the earth at the moment of the crucifixion of our Lord, when the ancient mythologies, as if smitten by lightning from heaven, yielded up the ghost, crying :

"Great Pan is dead !"  
And that dismal cry rose slowly  
And sank slowly through the air,  
Full of spirit's melancholy,  
And eternity's despair ;  
And they heard the words it said,  
"Pan is dead—Great Pan is dead—  
Pan, Pan is dead."

The old nature-worship, vanquished by the clearer light that shone from Bethlehem and Calvary, shrank dismayed and palsied to the earth from which it sprang. It was the end