

**THE BIBLE RECORD OF
CREATION VIEWED
IN ITS LETTER AND
SPIRIT, 2 SERMONS**

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The Bible record of Creation viewed in its letter and spirit, 2 sermons by Charles B. Waller

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THE
BIBLE RECORD OF CREATION

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THE
BIBLE RECORD OF CREATION

VIEWED IN ITS LETTER AND SPIRIT

TWO SERMONS

PREACHED AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WOODFORD BRIDGE

BY
Palmer
CHARLES B. WALLER, M.A.

AUTHOR OF

"THE APOCALYPSE VIEWED UNDER THE LIGHT OF THE DOCTRINES OF THE
UNFOLDING AGES, AND THE RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS"

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SERMON I.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."—GENESIS i. 1.

THERE is no part of the Bible which has been more criticized in these latter days, and received more unfavourable comment, than these early chapters in Genesis. The reason is this—that in these days the study of physical science; the tracing the laws which appear to regulate the combinations and movements of matter; and the vast and deeply interesting discoveries which have been made in regard to the antiquity of this earth, which reveal traces of life as having existed in the dim distances of what appears to our finite understandings the remotest past, far, far away beyond our Bible chronology of six thousand years;—has given encouragement to a sceptical spirit, which it is our business to lament and to guard against.

And the way to guard against this, in our judgment, is not by closing our eyes to the facts which true science lays bare ; it is not by denouncing them ; but by accepting them as a revelation from God, in the same reverent manner that we receive the revelations of His Word when spoken to us by prophets and apostles for our instruction in righteousness. For that spoken Word testifies to the truth that God made the heavens and the earth, and hath given them a law which shall not be broken ; therefore all revelation which God makes [to men, by so enlightening their understandings that they may read some of the wonderful things in the material world which may be judged of by the understanding and the senses, *must be in accord* with the revelations of this spoken Word. If there be an apparent discrepancy, we are at fault. God's work in the material as well as in the spiritual world, which are intimately blended together, we may be well assured is one harmonious whole ; and if there be any discord heard by us, it is an infirmity in our sense of hearing, and we must look to correct our judgment rather than to impugn the works of God.

We must allow that God creates and sustains all

things—things visible and invisible, things material and spiritual—and that all the works of His hand are harmonious and very good, and that, if there be discord in any part of His creation, it comes of that free will with which responsible personalities have been endowed, that they may pass through a period of probation.

Whenever, then, there is an apparent opposition between the truths stated to be such, which are derived from the study of nature and from the truths supposed to be such derived from the study of the Bible, we may rest assured that there is an error on man's part ; either the natural philosophers, the students of the material world, are in error, or maybe that divines, the students of the Bible, are themselves in error, and are drawing erroneous conclusions from the written Word, thus making the Word of God of none effect by their traditions of interpretation.

Now, there are some discoveries which the students of natural science have made which no one in his senses will dispute, and that because they are capable of demonstration. We no longer believe that the sun rises and sets and travels round the earth, but that this rising and setting, as we call it in speaking the language of appearances,