

falling into the ocean, the victors reigning in heaven. In the Mysteries we have the rebellion of the Titans, and the fables of Typhon, and Horus, and Osiris. The story of the devil plotting against man is stranger than either of these. The Son of God is injured by the devil, and charges us when we are afflicted to bear it patiently. Why not punish the devil, instead of threatening poor wretches whom he deceives?

Christ must needs suffer, you say, because it was so foretold. The oracles under whose guidance so many colonies have been founded were nothing, but every word spoken or not spoken in Judæa must be infallible. Prophets and diviners are to be found at the present day scattered everywhere. They are to be met with in temples, and camps, and cities, with crowds gathered about them. 'I am God,' they say, 'or the son of God, or the Holy Spirit, and I have come because the world is to perish, and you, oh men, are like to perish, too, in your iniquities; but I will save you; hereafter you will see me coming in the power of heaven; blessed are those who believe in me now; the rest I will burn with everlasting fire; repentance will then be in vain; only those who now listen shall escape.' Then they utter some unintelligible nonsense from which