

For

*J Darwin*

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Cutting from the

*Life of Faith*

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Address of Journal

Two volumes of *More Letters of Charles Darwin* have just been published, and among them this interesting and significant utterance occurs:—

If we consider the whole universe, the mind refuses to look at it as the outcome of chance: that is, without design or purpose. The whole question seems to me insoluble, for I cannot put much or any faith in the so-called intuitions of the human mind, which have been developed, as I cannot doubt, from such a mind as animals possess; and what would their convictions or intuitions be worth?

What a revelation of mind we have here, both in its greatness and its limitations! The mind of Darwin refusing to believe in chance, and yet also asserting that the problem of the universe is insoluble. This is the "agnostic" position, which is unable or unwilling to face facts, and therefore can only say, "insoluble." Of course, with Darwin's views about man's mind having been evolved from a lower order his agnostic position is not difficult to understand. But science to-day does not follow Darwin on this point, for personality cannot be explained by evolution. There is "a great gulf fixed" between the highest animal and the lowest man, the difference being simply the human "ego." So we can still go on trusting the "intuitions of the human mind," Darwin notwithstanding, and argue from effect to cause, from facts to purpose, and say, "In the beginning God."