

VIII

THE COMPLETED IDEA AND ITS INSUFFICIENCY

“If we regard God merely as the Absolute Being and nothing more, we know Him only as the general irresistible force, or, in other words, as *the Lord*. Now it is true that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, but it is likewise true that it is *only* its beginning. In the Mohammedan religion God is conceived only as the Lord. Now although this conception of God is an important and necessary step in the development of religious consciousness, it yet by no means exhausts the depths of the Christian idea of God.”—*Hegel's Werke, Vol. VI., p. 226.*

WHAT is the result of our investigation of the Moslem idea of God? Is the statement of the Korán true, “Your God and our God is the same?” In as far as Moslems are monotheists and in as far as Allah has many of the attributes of Jehovah we cannot put Him with the false gods. But neither can there be any doubt that Mohammed’s conception of God is inadequate, incomplete, barren and grievously distorted. It is vastly inferior to the