

12 Death of the righteous, and told them when their God revealed  
1820 to them that they were to die, they were not afraid of Death:  
Aug 19 but were happy in the prospect of being in the same place where  
their God dwelt after death. But that they knew this was not  
the Case with the New Zealanders, when they thought they were  
going to die, they were very much afraid, and did not wish  
to die. They said this was the Case always with their Country-  
men - they were at all times afraid to die. I told them when  
they came to understand Gods Book which he had given to the  
White Men, and which the Missionaries would give unto  
them, and teach them to understand it, they would not be  
afraid to die any more than the white people who were  
good. They clearly comprehended the difference between one  
who was afraid to die, and one who was not. They said all  
the Souls of the New Zealanders went when they died, into  
a Cave at the North Cape, and from thence descended into  
the Sea to the next World. The privations and mortifications  
which those poor Heathens suffer from a sense of guilt, and  
fear are many and great. Without a Divine Revelation is  
communicated to them, they can never find a remedy that  
can free their minds from the bondage of Superstition, under  
the influence of which many sicken and pine away, and die.  
They have no idea of a God of mercy, who can do them good:  
but they are under the most painful fears of an invisible  
being, who is, according to their belief, at all times ready  
to kill and devour them: and will kill them if they neglect  
the smallest Tota in any of their Superstitious Ceremonies.  
To drink a little water out of the same Cup with me, at  
the time they are Tabooed by the Priest, would be considered  
an offence against their God, sufficient to induce him to put  
them to death. When I told them that my God was good,  
that I was not afraid of his anger - that he took care of me  
both by night and by day, whenever I went, and that he  
always heard me when I prayed unto him: They said they  
had no such God. Their God only punished and killed them.  
When I was amongst those Tribes I always thought it  
proper to pray publicly amongst them, explaining to them  
before I began, what I was going to do. The performance  
of this duty, tho' the Natives did not understand what I said,  
yet it furnished me with a Subject of Conversation, which