

brimstone sent from the Lord. Into every home of native Egyptians, in the course of one night, God sent the angel of death, and there smote all the first-born; and not long after that deed of desolation, He so arranged things as to cause the King of Egypt, and thousands of his soldiers, to meet with their destruction amidst the billows of the Red Sea. It was God who gave that terrible commission to the Israelites with regard to the abominable idolaters of Canaan, because they sacrificed their own children and otherwise defiled the land:—"Thou shalt smite them and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor show mercy unto them."—*DUET.* vii., 2. The rebellious adherents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram found to their grief that the earth was waiting the nod of Jehovah to devour them alive. Each one of 185,000 of Senacherib's army possessed a life as precious as any of ours, and was the centre of affection and interest to parents and kindred far away; and yet, in one night, the heavy hand of God was upon them, and they became all dead men. As a matter of history, then, we know that God did do terrible things in ancient times, because of the sins of men.

4th. *It is further said that God has prepared a fearful state for some of His creatures.*

It may be well for us to see what the Scriptures tell us upon this subject. There is a "place prepared for the devil and his angels,"—that is, his agents, whether those agents be demons or human beings. It is said, sometimes, to be a place of "outer darkness"—an abode of gloom, of sorrow, outside the circle of creation cheered by the light of God's smile. It is called a place where "their worm dieth not, and their fire is not quenched." In one chapter it is called a "lake of fire burning with brimstone." In another it is represented under the figure of a "bottomless pit," from whence there is no escape. It is also, to be made to "drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation, and to be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lord. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever; and they have no