

have nothing to apprehend. They may remain safe and quiet spectators of the threatening scene. For it is not to be a scene of blind confusion; of universal ruin brought about by undesigned chance. Over the show of the elements, and the wreck of nature, Eternal Wisdom presides. According to its direction, the conflagration advances which is to consume the earth. In the midst every convulsion of the world, God shall continue to be, as he was from the beginning, the dwelling place of his servants to all generations. The world may be lost to them; but the ruler of the world is ever the same, unchangeably good and just. This is the high tower to which they can fly, and be safe. The righteous Lord loveth righteousness; and under every period of his government, his countenance beholdeth the upright.

II. Let us contemplate the dissolution of the world as the end of all human glory. This earth has been the theatre of many a great spectacle, and many a high achievement. There, the wise have ruled, the mighty have fought, and conquerors have triumphed. Its surface has been covered with proud and stately cities. Its temples and palaces have raised their heads to the sky. Its kings and potentates, glorying in their magnificence, have erected pyramids, constructed towers, founded monuments, which they imagined were to defy all the assaults of time. Their inward thought was, that their houses were to continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations. Its philosophers have explored the secrets of nature; and flattered themselves, that the fame of their discoveries was to be immortal.—Alas! this was no more than a transient show. Not only the fashion of the world, but the world itself passeth away. The day cometh when all the glory of this world shall be remembered, only as a dream when one awaketh. No longer shall the earth exhibit any of those scenes which now delight our eyes. The whole beautiful fabric is hrown down, never more to arise. As soon as the destroying angel has sounded the last trumpet, the eve