

to raise the church as a body ; and therefore is it that her latter end—her final downfall, is so wonderful. But all who thus join to “make war against the Lamb,” shall finally be destroyed by the devouring judgments of God, so that they shall corrupt and oppress the earth no more.

But there is “a world to come,” and “the coming and Kingdom of the Lord” shall bring it. There is “a new heaven and earth wherein dwelleth righteousness,” which shall be so established in peace, that they never can be disturbed. Man shall be made peaceable under their dominion, and enabled to keep the peace of God. But first he shall be made to loathe and abhor himself for all the abominations he hath wrought.—Then the longings of our nature shall be satisfied; the universal cry for peace and prosperity shall be answered, and the groans of the groaning creation shall be heard no more, for its misery and travail shall come to an end. Man shall be taught to desire nothing which God will not grant as soon as the request shall be made known. “That which is perfect shall come, and that which is in part shall be done away.” All that remain on the earth shall be partakers of it; for “the nations of the saved shall walk in the light” of that city which shall be “THE PERFECTION OF BEAUTY,” out of which God shall shine upon them in love and mercy forever.

And this “world to come,” is that which, in the third place, comes in to constitute the completeness of human happiness. For this happiness, three things are chiefly requisite; first, personal condition and qualification: secondly, social condition, or that of the body to which we belong, and the persons to whom we shall stand in various relations as in a body: and lastly, the place of our habitation and the things thereof. God hath therefore purposed to “make all things new,” so that “the earth, which He hath given to the children of men,” (Psalm cxv. 16.) may be fitted to be the habitation of the holy,—Satan’s works shall be destroyed, and himself and his legions cast out; and nothing shall hurt or destroy, for the earth shall be filled with the knowledge and glory of the Lord. But now men are endeavoring to bring about the desired, and anticipated blessedness, in their own wisdom, and by their own might. “They say to God, Depart from us: for we desire not the knowledge