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THE LAST DAYS.

AND Jacob called unto his sons and said, gather yourselves together that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the *last days*.—*Gen. 49, 1.*

In that passage is the first reference to a period of time often mentioned in the Word of God as the "last days" "latter times" the "last times" the "time" when iniquity shall have an end, in the end of this world, when, under the name of a new creation (*Phil. 2, 10. Col. 1, 20. Rev. 20, 5.*) the heavens and earth, and all therein, of earth and sea and sky shall be born again, just as every true christian is born again before he is received into fellowship with God, while those who are free agents, who refuse or have no desire to become subject to the will of God, will be cut off, for in that day the prophets declare that the land shall be cleansed and that God will have a willing people in the day of his power, when he will, as promised, establish an earthly sovereignty over all nations, that shall never end.

Moses made known to the Israelites that they should not prolong their days in the land of Canaan, but be utterly destroyed off of it, and be scattered and be few among all nations, (*Deut. 4, 26-29.*) but that in the "latter days" God would remember the covenants made their fathers to give them a new inheritance and to their king the whole earth (*Deut. 4, 40.*) as Jacob assured to Joseph (*Gen. 49, 26.*) unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills.

Nearly all the ancient prophets speak of wonderful events to transpire in the "latter days" and St. John, as the prophetic historian of the christian dispensation, sets forth certain leading events to transpire, by which the wise shall understand, but as Daniel said, ch. 12, 10, the wicked shall not, when the end of the "latter days" shall be. The particulars given by St. John are confirmatory of particulars stated by the ancient prophets, and he closes his prophetic history with an account of the Judgement Day, when the books of the Old and New Testaments are opened, that is, their truths and prophecies fully understood, and the mystery of God, (*Rev. 10, 7.*) be revealed to the evil and the good; then they shall see by the Book of Life, (*Rev. 20, 12.*) by the immutable laws of Jehovah that every man will be rewarded according to his works, (*Rev. 22, 11-12.*) and finally that whosoever shall alter those prophecies he has given, or shall deny those immutable laws as presented in this Book of Life he prophesied of (*Rev. 22, 19.*) that God will take away his part out of the promised blessings thereof and out of the holy city, and from the rewards promised in the book of Revelations to the faithful in Christ Jesus.

It is not necessary to notice events antecedent to those referred to in *Rev. 8, 7.*, where there is a description of the introduction of fire arms used in the destruction of Palestine, under the names