

This cannot literally refer to the Judgment Day fire as is claimed by annihilationists. For if the wicked are burned up at the time the world is burning ; am sure no righteous person would enjoy walking on their hot coals and ashes. If we wait until the world cools off there will be none of the old world or of their ashes to walk upon.

That this day spoken of by Malachi *any day* the Judgment Day, I will not deny : but that it literally describes the extinction of the wicked at that time, I do most emphatically contradict. And that there is no foundation for any such hopes, we prove in following chapters.

Josephus tells us that at the beginning of the siege of Jerusalem, the armies withdrew for a short space of time as if to fulfill prophecy and that numbers escaped to the mountains and perished not.

The question how a loving Father could consistently inflict eternal punishment is readily answered. That God is the Creator of all things the Bible concludes : that angels once pure and holy are reserved in chains unto everlasting punishment is also declared. Now if it is true concerning fallen angels who never have had the privileges of redemption, or opportunities of reinstatement ; how much more, of men, who have trampled upon the blood of the covenant and counted it an unholy thing, rejected the Son of God, despised