

DISCOURSE.

ISAIAH 21, 11.

HE CALLETH TO ME OUT OF SEIR. WATCHMAN, WHAT OF THE NIGHT? WATCHMAN, WHAT OF THE NIGHT?

A RANGE of mountains on the south border of Judea in Arabia was called *Seir*. One of the Arabs in these mountains, is represented in the vision of the Prophet, as awakened to enquire of him; "Watchman, what of the night?" What are the tidings? You stand on the watch tower, to descry danger; you are always awake; what do you discover? What is the voice of prophecy? What time of the night is it? When will it be morning? What is the aspect of the times? What is to be done?

To such enquiries the prophet points out the duty of his hearer, and the signs of the times. Like him, as far as I am able, I would consider the signs and duties of our times; but alas, my replies will be as much inferior to those of the inspired prophet, as my hearers are superior to an assembly of Arabians. Yet with perfect reliance on your candor I proceed to observe,

I. The woes of Zion's long night of affliction are coming to a final close.

That the church of Jesus Christ is in a depressed, afflicted state, has long been felt by her