

SERMON.



MICAH IV, 1—4.

In the last days, it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off: and they shall beat their swords into plough-shares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit, every man under his vine and under his fig-tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it.

IN this, as in many other passages of holy Scripture, is predicted a period, when genuine Christianity, with its blessed influences on the temporal condition and the eternal prospects of men, shall be diffused among all nations: A period, when the benefits of intellectual and moral elevation shall be every where enjoyed; when the true God shall, every where, be known, and worshipped, and obeyed; when the duties of domestic, and social, and civil relations shall be, every where, understood and performed; when governments shall be modelled and administered on just and benevolent principles; when war and its attendant miseries shall have entirely ceased, and tyranny, oppression, persecution, bigotry, and cruelty be done away; when business shall be conducted without contention, dishonesty