

In two of the written messages were the following words : "This night, ere the sun goes down, I will smite thee," meaning that He, the Lord, would do so if they meddled with His servant or work. That night was Wednesday, Jan. 10, 1877, when the people and I thought that they to whom the messages were given were going to be smitten. You see the Lord said, "This night ere the sun goes down." Now, the natural sun does not give light at night, so this could not be God's meaning; still I felt sure that God was going to fulfil His promise that night, but after sunset on that evening God said, "The sun of my wrath has not gone down, for it will wither and scorch out this foul report dark as night."

It has often been remarked that there was no scripture for all those messages, but oh! mistaken men and women; there was scripture in every one of them. Look in Acts XXIII, 3, and you will find part of the first one—"I, the Lord, will smite thee, thou whited wall." The second, you will see, is in Prov. I, 26,— "I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh." The third you will find in Ex. XII, 12,— "I will smite the first born." The fourth was in Rev. XI, 5,— "Or else I will come upon thee quickly and remove the candlestick out of its place." Previous to this God told me to go to this man's house and tell his good wife that he was to start no meetings here until this strife was out of the church, referring to this man's strife and evil speaking of myself. What was this strife for? Because he was to receive the above-mentioned command, the meaning of which was that if he did not cease his opposition God would come upon him quickly and remove the candlestick out of its place ere the sun went down. I told you what was meant by the word "sun" but we thought that the man was going to have only one day to repent.. God was more merciful to him for he gave him three years to do so. The fifth and last message you will find in Gal. V., 1,— "Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free," and there was more scripture in them than that, for "I, the Lord," was in every one of them.

" God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform,
He plants His footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm."

" His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may leave a bitter taste
But sweet will be the flower."