

## THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

ASTRONOMERS have undertaken to identify the star which guided the wise men of the east to the birth-place of the "King of the Jews," and not only so but to define its orbit and predict its re-appearance. What an under-current of anxiety and fear must be caused in the minds of the unsaved who connect this coming return with the Lord's descent from heaven, knowing well that this great event will separate between the saved and the unsaved, and bring upon the ungodly "swift destruction."

It is said by the scripture that the enquiries about this star at Jerusalem caused Herod and all the people to be troubled, and why when they were looking for their Messiah? because it is written that "a king shall reign in righteousness." And why are so many troubled now when the Lord's coming is spoken of? alas, they know full well that they have "neither part nor lot in this matter;" that while the coming of the Lord will be unspeakable joy to His people, it will be dismay and despair to all who have not accepted Him as a Saviour.

Some try to persuade themselves that it is all a fiction, but scripture is positive. "He shall come as a thief in the night"—"When they shall say peace and safety then sudden destruction cometh upon them \* \* and they shall not escape." Ah! but says one that is the end of the world; not so, for the Lord says "what I say unto you I say unto all, watch."

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