

have remarked in the last discourse, God will deem it proper and necessary that the principles and devotedness of the inhabitants of the world should be tested ; and will, therefore, allow Satan to be at large for this purpose. He will be but too successful : the number of those he will deceive will be "as the sand of the sea." How strange that it will be possible to persuade such a number of those happy people to rebel against God ! And yet, again considered, what wonder ! He deceived our first parents when enjoying the intimacy and vision of God in paradise.

But it appears that while his efforts and partial success will be general, yet he will be most successful, in some particular quarters, and over a people of a peculiar character. These are termed *Gog and Magog*. These people are described as living in the *four quarters* of the earth ; or, at the *four angles*, or *corners* of the earth. But who are these people ? In a former discourse we have remarked that anciently these were general names applied to the barbarous nations of the north of Europe and Asia. In the revelations the names occur as distinctive of the inhabitants of a country, for their locality is given. They may have a symbolical meaning, but it is mostly the case that where there is a geographical identification, the sense is literal. Many interpreters understand the names as symbolical expressions for *the heathen nations* of Asia, especially the Scythians. Gog is mentioned (Ezekiel xxxix.,) as the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and both of these sons of Japheth were seated in the north eastern