

of the mighty! It needs but a word, and the cedar is broken—Lebanon and Carmel tremble. I often think how easily he could change in a moment the whole moral state of our world. Were he but to utter from above, in the hearing of all men, these words. "I am Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last," what a mighty revolution would it make at once on all human theories and opinions; what a new turn would it give to philosophy, to science, and to legislation! Every man's view and scheme of life would then be altered; the life itself of many millions totally revolutionized. The captive daughter of Zion would be set free; and the host of Satan bound with adamant chains. Well, this shall one day come to pass. "All the kindreds of the earth," saith the Lord, "shall wail because of Him." But know that God our Saviour is a God "that hideth himself;" a God who will be found only of those who seek him. The fully manifested God comes only to judgment.

"The voice of the Lord," says David, "is powerful; the voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire." This it does wherever it reaches the sinner's ear. The voice is here—in this book! It sounds forth amid your cares and your pleasures, and your unhallowed engrossment with the present life. But ye perceive it not; and it passes over you without trace or result. But take care, ye that have Bibles in your houses, or Bible phrases in your memories! You are playing with a dangerous and awful force, that may any day explode to your unspeakable consternation. It is an easy thing for the Lord, at any moment, so to affect your ear that you shall hear, in the words of this book, his own voice, the voice of the Infinite Majesty: and hear it as if it came, not from a written scroll, but from the depths of the Eternal Throne. Then it is more than a prophet of Nazareth that tells you, "Except a man be born again, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." It is the Lord of the kingdom; and woe unto you, if ye are not "born again." Then it is no longer the disciple Matthew from whom you receive the witness of Tabor, "Hear ye him." It is the Eternal God;