

wrath in its singular overthrow, in its doom first by fire and next by burial in the sea, the mists of which are a perpetual reminder of the "smoke of her torment," that old city, living in story, though long dead in fact, has stood out on the sacred page as a solemn warning, the lurid light of which has caught the eye and alarmed the wickedness of all generations of men. And, in after ages, the deserved destruction of the wicked Canaanites who were usurpers in Palestine, who had abundant opportunity to repent and to leave the land, but who made the approach of the Israelites a pretext for a war in direct defence of idolatry—this destruction, so often condemned, is to be seen in the same light. It is no isolated event to be judged by ordinary rules. The nations that then existed and that were to be born needed to understand that denying God and attempting to thwart his will was sure to bring ruin. And so, all through the prophets, we hear those iron-tongued men ring out the threat that, as God destroyed the nations in Canaan, so he would destroy the Jews if they walked not in his ways.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As to psalms which contain prayers for the destruction of David's enemies, it must be remembered that he was not a private man, wishing for private vengeance, but a king, and as such the rightful head of authority and the executive, whose