

to the overthrow of Jerusalem by the Chaldeans (which alone is here predicted); and, therefore, the terms descriptive of the one were descriptive of the other also. The events were such perfectly similar examples of the divine procedure towards a nation, the cup of whose wickedness is full, that they might be foretold in identically the same words.

VER. 6.—“For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans,
That bitter and hasty nation,
Which shall march through the breadth of the land,
To possess the dwelling-places that are not theirs.

” 7.—They are terrible and dreadful:
Their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves.”

That is, they shall pass decrees according to their own absolute caprice, and bear themselves in the most haughty and imperious manner.

VER. 8.—“Their horses also are swifter than the leopards,
And are more fierce than the evening wolves:
And their horsemen shall spread themselves”—

“Spread themselves.” The original term is one that expresses the vain-glorious display which the horsemen should make.

“And their horsemen shall come from far;
They shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat.

VER. 9.—They shall come all for violence:
Their faces shall sup up as the east wind”—

“The east wind” in Judea was of a scorching character, withering plants and herbage that were exposed to its blast. The idea is, that as the east wind spreads desolation, so the Chaldeans should devour all before them.

“And they shall gather the captivity” (*i.e.* captives) “as the sand.
VER. 10.—And they shall scoff at the kings,
And the princes shall be a scorn unto them:
They shall deride every stronghold;
For they shall heap dust, and take it.”

The “heaping of dust” refers to the mounds raised against besieged cities.