

**Peculiarities.**

1. The most striking feature of the book is its symbolism. That symbolism is in many of its elements strange and obscure. It is a tragedy of eclipse, and earthquake and plague. "It is a book of war, but the war ends in triumph and peace. It is a book of thunder, but the rolling of the thunder dies away in liturgies and psalms."

2. Farrar says: "It must be regarded as a psychological impossibility that St. John should have written the Gospel in extreme old age in Greek, which though un-idiomatic in structure is comparatively pure, and yet some years later should have written the Apocalypse in Greek more rugged and solecistic than that of any other book in the New Testament, and even all but very worst parts of the Septuagint. It is still more impossible psychologically that John should have retrogressed from the supreme calmness and absolute spirituality of the Gospel and the first Epistle to the crude symbolism, the tumultuous agitation, the intenser Judaism, the fiercer denunciations, the more human tone, and the more imperfect treatment of the Apocalypse."