

12 WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF HIS COMING?

When the war drums throb no longer
and the battle flags are furled,
In the parliament of man, the federation of the world."

We reach the main thought of our discourse and the heart of our subject, when we affirm that Bible students will never understand prophecy until they learn to distinguish the difference between the coming of the Kingdom and the coming of the King. The coming of the Kingdom will be gradual, but the coming of the King will be sudden.

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The greatest prophecy in scripture is expressed in these words: "In the days of those kings shall the God of Heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, it shall stand forever." Every event in history brings us nearer to the fulfilment of that prophecy. The timepiece of the Eternal has decades for "seconds," centuries for "minutes" and millenniums for "hours." It required four centuries of martyrdom to establish Christianity on the earth. Nearer and nearer to the divine consumation, the race moves onward—ever onward toward "that one far-off divine event toward which the whole creation moves." In the log book of Columbus, again and again, do we find the prophetic words: "This day we sailed westward." Toward a higher destiny we move as we sing with Whittier:

"I feel the earth move sunward
I join the great march onward."

To every child of the King is given the divine guarantee of an ultimate victory. "For as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord