

then destroy men. And the historic fact of Satan's temptation through words that seemed not his own but the serpent's words, is not only named by our Lord long centuries afterward, but the moral teaching of it is enforced by him when he says, "Ye are of your father the devil. He was a *liar* from the beginning." The whole series of facts was to be rehearsed in the earliest centuries by the patriarchs, and thus handed down through the generations, until written language came to the rescue of an oral tradition, and Moses must put the story on the imperishable pages of Revelation.

And the flood is in the same line of object-teaching. It taught the world of the sin of attempting to do without God. And no less was the deliverance given to Noah a designed instance of palpable teaching. For it has so stamped our whole mode of thought, that, in the religious language of the world, *the ark* is the symbol of salvation. So, too, we can understand the overthrow of Sodom only when we see it as God's teaching of retribution. In the pathway of the great caravans, on the world's broadest highway, situated where its destruction would be as conspicuous as its wickedness had been notorious, sure to be the theme of remark as an example of divine