

ures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man."

But "*the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.*"

This monarch so august, and wise in his own eye, appeared in that of the Almighty, only as a subaltern, a servant sent by his master to chastise, not to extirpate his children. At the very moment that he fancied himself possessed of Jerusalem, the Lord, with a single blast, disperses all his proud hopes ; and in one night, destroys an hundred and fourscore thousand of his force. "*He puts his hook in his nose, and his bridle in his lips, and turns him back by the way by which he came.*" It is thus that his Almighty power directs the passions of men to the accomplishment of his judgments. Well might the sacred writer say, "*the wrath of man shall praise thee.*" This it hath done in all ages. It has always been a part of the moral government of God to mix the evil with the good ; to pour his blessings upon mankind, when, by their conduct, they show themselves worthy of his Almighty protection and favour, and to send abroad his judgments at other times to punish their transgressions. God had a peculiar regard for the children of Israel, which he manifested in choosing them for his own. How often, notwithstanding this, did he raise up enemies to them, to chastise them for their sins, and when they amended their
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