

of the Old Testament church, "This is he that was in the church in the wilderness." But the Brethren quietly set Stephen aside and unchurch the great law-giver of Israel.

#### ERROR CONCERNING CHRIST' COMING.

According to Plymouthism there are yet to be *two* comings of Christ. In the first He will come "for" His saints, to take them out of the world. This is to be invisible and in the air. The second will be at the "last day," when He will bring His saints "with" Him to judge the wicked. The truth requires us to say that the "first" coming has been invented to patch out their premillenarian theory. There is not a shadow of ground for it in the Word of God; it is only an unwarrantable inference drawn from Paul's words to the Thessalonians—"Them, also, which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him." *Ergo*, He must have previously come "for" them, in order that He might now bring them "with" Him! Further, we are told that the Lord may come "for" His people any day or any hour—that there is nothing to prevent this. This is wonderful! If there be nothing to prevent Him, how is it that He does not come? To an unsophisticated mind the very fact that He does not come is sufficient evidence that He is prevented by something. But the Brethren base another statement upon the one just made, viz., "the Scripture teaches that His people should live in daily expectation of His coming, as did the apostles and early Christians." The Scripture teaches nothing of the kind concerning the apostles—the huge blunders of modern premillenarians, to wit. It cannot be shown that the apostles lived in any such "daily expectation." On the contrary, Paul is constantly talking about his approaching "departure" by death, and Peter would have his readers remember certain things after his "decease." There is no Plymouthitic expectation of the Lord's coming in either case. But Paul has some positive teaching upon this matter, and it is fatal to the view of the Brethren. In 2 Thess. ii. 2 he rebukes the Thessalonians for their "daily expectation" error: "That ye be not soon shaken in mind; or be troubled; neither by