

of the Jew to his own land, the stealthy but steady strides of pestilence and the sudden grip of famine, the shivering earth, quivering and breaking asunder, the waves of the sea roaring, the menacing heavens, loosened winds and multiplying storms, the outbreak of floods, the burning, scorching heat of the sun, and mens' hearts failing them for fear—everywhere heart failure mixed with bold boasting and unconcealed defiance of God—what are these but the very signs pictured in the Word of God as antedating the advent of the Christ?

In every note of war, in every tramp of armed men, in every political change, whether in Europe or in Asia, in every bold denial of the Word of God, in the increase of knowledge and with it the increase of unbelief, in the false faiths coming in the name of Christ, in the extended wealth of the few and the increasing domination of commerce controlled by the few, in the rising of the multitude and the chorus of lawlessness which they sing, in the retreat of Protestantism and the advance of Romanism, in the homeward-bound of the Jew, in the breath of pestilence and the pinch of famine, in the uncertain earth and the frowning sky—read the plain writing of these "perilous times," which an Apostle said should come; read the plain writing that the age of Gospel grace is drawing to a close; that the Antichrist is at hand; that the days of the Antichrist are casting forth their shadow; and