

10 WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF HIS COMING?

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Second, there seems to have slumbered in the minds of the Hebrew prophets and universal upheavals in the social, political, intellectual and spiritual realms. In the rich, metaphorical language of oriental expression, these predictions are alike startling to the mind and fascinating to the imagination. With what linguistic precision they touch every realm of thought and action. (1) "The sun shall be darkened"—an expression which seems to hint at great changes in the arena of political affairs and international relationships. (2) "The moon shall not give her light"—a veiled suggestion of important revolutions in human thought as touching the realm of social distinctions and class divisions. (3) "The stars shall fall from heaven"—great readjustments in human ideals; a new conception of old principles which have been regarded as the "fixed stars" of human thought. Great reconstructions in doctrine, principles and, so-called, fundamental truths. (4) "And the powers of the heavens shall be shaken"—such vast changes in the religious thinking of mankind as shall indicate disturbances of the most vital character with reference to the recognized seat of authority in spiritual things. All these peculiar phrases indicate change, turmoil, trouble, unrest, upheaval and revolution. The sky of history black with the storm driven clouds of unlooked for events—"Behold, He cometh with clouds!" There are to be great revolutions in every realm of human achievement, but all these changes whether mental, social, political, ecclesiastical or international, will tend to