

good are everything. Go to the right or left now, Daniel, and your enemies triumph. Prevaricate and suppress and you are done for, for there is no God, he prays to none but the King and what would the inference be but that your religion is a sham, yourself a pretender, and if the enemy get you thus far down, they stab you and your influence perishes. Now Daniel deprived them of all this by abridging not his devotions, and by absconding not, but by doing as aforetime. Courage is commendable in all, but it is indispensable to the Christian. You admire the soldier who occupies the forlorn post, and the sailor who nails his country's flag to the mast, but is not the youthful convert who bides the sneers and taunts of the sceptic equally a hero? Yes, and those gibes are harder to bear than an enemy's bullet. But Daniel's consistence and courage brought him to the Lion's den. His enemies want to destroy him, and now they have him by law condemned. But Daniel is prepared for every emergence; his body he lets them cast to the lions, his soul he commends to God, nevertheless he abandons not prayer. And we have worthy successors to Daniel, who though not delivered as he was, nevertheless received grace to be faithful and accepted the crown of martyrdom. One boy, when the cruel stroke pierced his flesh, was asked by the Judge "what can your Saviour do for you now?" meekly replied: "He enables me to bear and pray for my persecutors," then turning to his mother who witnessed his suffering "O Mother" cried he "give me a drink," "my son" she replied "God has enabled you to drink of his grace and soon will you drink of the fountain of life that flows from his throne"—at this the boy was quieted and his spirit departed. Ignatius and the martyrs were cast to the lions, not accepting an unrighteous deliverance, they feared God's wrath rather than their anger who could only kill the body, and dreaded his displeasure at apostasy rather than their short lived resentment. And where are they now? and where is Daniel? but where are the tormentors, and the hypocritical and apostate? they have their part in the lake that burneth. Take your choice then. Better the lions with a sound conscience and a saved soul, than the palace with remorse and God's anger. The former will have a good ending, the latter never—so Cranmer found it—so Bilney, and so Francis Spira, who from the hour of his retraction of the reformed faith had never a moment's peace nor could utter a simple prayer. "Whoso saveth his life will love it, but whoso loveth his life for my sake, the same will save it everlastingly." O, sound the depths of that sentence and ascertain where true safety and wisdom lie.

But Daniel stands high as a prophet as well as beloved as a man, and though it be properly no part of a lecture upon his character, to speak of his sayings as a prophet, yet is there something in the times that warrants our doing so. For we hear of Turkish barbarities and the Sultan's misrule, but turn to the eighth chapter and you find Daniel foretelling the character and fate of the Mahomedan delusion. The scene of that chapter is laid in East and the great horn is the King of Grecia, Alexander the Great. After him were four kingdoms to arise, referring to his four generals who divided the empire between them. And in the latter time of one of the kingdoms, namely that of Seleucus, Governor of Syria, when the "transgressors had come to the full", and the Christian Church had fallen to image worship, a King of fierce countenance and dark sentences should arise. Who is this but Mahomet the head of that power whose weapon was the sword and whose Bible was the Koran, "a book of dark sentences!" He arose at the time and place indicated and his religion extended in the direction viz., toward the North Arabia, East, where it yet prevails and the pleasant land *i.e.* Judea; and his power and influence were exercised as there described. He cast down the daily sacrifices, both Jews and Christians suffered incredibly by him, and he prospered but not by his own power *i.e.* not the native power of his religion but by the extraneous use of the sword. It is well known that Mohammedanism is a religion of coercion, that few converts took place till Mohammed became a warrior and that his followers imposed tribute and conversion by means of the sword. Follow the course of his religion and you will find that ferocity has characterized its adherents in every age and its successes are those of arms. After capturing Araba and Asia Minor generally, it took Constantinople which has become its chief seat, laid waste the fairest portions of the East *i.e.* the land of the Bible; the lamps lit by an Apostle have been extinguished and desolated by this darksome delusion. Follow it into Europe and there the locusts spread until the tide of war was rolled back from the gates of France herself by Charles Martel and his Lion-hearted Germans, but it is in the East that these locusts still spread and desolate Bible lands. The followers of Mahomet are recorded at 190 millions and their policy is seen by their wholesale butchery of Maronite Christians at Damascus and by recent barbarities at Bulgaria and Servia. England has become alarmed and threatens to drive the Turks across the Bosphorus and to give up their alliance, no wonder; thousands of Christian women and children ruthlessly beheaded and numerous villages burnt without cause in the