on. x. 4] EXPOUNDED 209  
  
It would appear that the testimony of each would be  
too plain for God’s purpose in this book, and hence  
they are sealed up. But how sealed up? By their  
not being written! ‘That is, if they had but been penned,  
we should have understood them at once. And, as  
what is written in this prophecy was not to be sealed  
up, as Jesus says at the close, ‘ Seal not the words of  
the prophecy of this book; for the season is near ”’  
(xxil. 10), so the only way to reconcile both parts of  
God’s design was to direct the apostle to leave them  
out. How different God’s idea of this book to that  
which is generally entertained by Christians! God  
thinks that what ts written is REVEALED : the contrary to  
what is mysterious and kept back. They think, that  
what is written is incomprehensible. In order to conceal  
the thunders’ voices, God will not have them written.  
This proves that mystery is not wholly past, though  
it is fast removing.  
The voices of these thunders are lost for ever, unless  
God should be pleased specially to reveal them at some  
future day. John knew their intent: but with him  
it was to expire. Hence the words “and write them  
not,” are added to the command to seal. It was not  
thus with the scene at the close of the Saviour’s  
ministry. The words of God were heard by some, and  
have been recorded by the Holy Ghost. Moreover, the  
Saviour proceeded to comment on them and expound  
them. But these were designed of God to be lost,  
amidst so much that ismade known. His will be done !  
This is the manner of God. Even where He gives  
liberally, He reserves something, in token of His right  
toall. Thus He gave six days, but reserved the seventh ;  
the whole of the trees of Eden, onc excepted ; and all  
the spoil of the land of Canaan, save that of Jericho.  
Thus all blasphemy may be forgiven, but that against  
the Holy Ghost.  
  
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