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and ‘‘ endless genealogies,” for the adoption of the old  
heathenism, which is here revived.  
  
14. ‘The second woe is past: behold, the third woe cometh  
quickly.”  
  
But what is the third woe? For we have no great  
calamity occurring at the sounding of the seventh trump.  
The seven bowls (vials) constitute, I doubt not, the  
third woe. Hence they are called rather the third  
“woe” than “the seventh trumpet.”  
The False Christ has now arisen; and the bowls are  
God’s scourge upon the Great Usurper and his wor-  
shippers. The place of the third woe is here left  
vacant. It is filled up in chapter xvi. In the account  
given us of the seventh trump, we have only the  
results in heaven stated. But the plagues fall on earth.  
There seems, however, a place left for them in the notice  
of the consequences of the seventh trumpet given by  
the elders. ‘“‘ The nations were angry, and thy wrath  
came :” and after that, the judgment of the dead.  
But why are they not shown at once? Why are  
chapters xii., xiii., xiv. interposed? (1) In order to  
display man’s wickedness at the full; (2) to give  
comfort to both classes of God’s saints named in the  
book ; and (3) to discover to us more fully the Usur-  
per.  
The iniquity of men against the Two Prophets draws  
down the final thunderbolt. They have got rid of these  
two warning voices by daring impiety. But the result  
resembles that when Hananiah broke the yoke from off  
Jeremiah’s neck. “Go and tell Hananiah saying,  
thou hast broken the yokes of wood; but thou shalt  
make for them yokes of tron” (Jer. xxviii. 13). No  
longer do men capable of death discharge the wrath of  
God upon earth ; but angels, whom they cannot touch,  
pour out from on high the bowls of wrath! The