284 THE APOCALYPSE [cH. xi. 8  
  
enmity is the Child. But as the Child cannot defend  
itself, its heavenly patrons step forward, and the war  
of Satan bursts out against the angels. There was  
always secret enmity of the evil angels against the  
holy ‘angels : now it bursts forth into the open employ-  
ment of force on each side. War is the end of Satan’s  
career in heaven. War is also his last game on earth,  
twice attempted.  
The devil wars as the Great Dragon. He delivers  
battle, as his last desperate resource, now that his  
accusations are proved untrue, and the time of his de-  
ceit on high is over. The serpent of Genesis who  
deceived Eve is seen to be a heavenly being, lord of  
hosts of angels, and drawing together the stars of  
heaven to combat against God’s throne.  
  
8. ‘‘ And he prevailed not, nor was their place found any more  
in heaven.”  
  
It is evident from the statement of the text that the  
war is yet future. It occurs when there are only 1,260  
days to the coming of Jesus visibly to earth: and after  
the time of patience commanded to the Church, and  
testified by it, is over.  
The result of the victory of the angels is not Satan’s  
casting into hell, but his ejection from heaven into  
earth, as is presently afterwards mentioned. It is the  
confounding what is spoken of the imprisonment of  
angels who fell in Noah’s day from the love of women,  
with the host of Satan who fell from envy and hatred of  
man, that Milton has erred, and led so many others  
astray. Gen. vi: 1-4; 2 Pet. ii. 4; 1 Cor. xi. 10.  
Many are surprised to hear that Satan is on high,  
because Milton has described him as cast into the  
bottomless pit. But Scripture never so speaks of him.  
It always supposes him to be either in heaven or in  
earth ; as we see by the histories of Job, of Saul, of