396 THE APOCALYPSE {on. xv. 2  
  
God Himself. Men at length cannot hide from themselves  
the conviction that God is really fighting against  
them; that a personal, intelligent, Almighty Deity  
knows their deeds and words, and smites them. Till  
this wrath is accomplished, Antichrist prospers. Dan.  
xi. 36.  
2. “And I saw as it were a glassy sca mingled with fire, and  
the overcomors of the Wild Beast, and of his imago, and of the  
number of his name, standing on the glassy sea, having the harps  
of God.”  
It is “a glassy sca ;” as if molten by heat, not cool  
and liquid as its natural counterpart.  
Jt is “mingled with fire.’ This section exhibits  
wrath at its height: the present feature accordingly  
was not named at its first appearance ; nor did it exist.  
There is now sin, not merely against natural light ; but  
against the redemption by Jesus. Antichrist by his  
False Prophet uses fire to seduce men. xiii. 18. Prob-  
ably he burns some of God’s saints in it: but it turns  
against the Usurper and his flock at last. As the  
sea was used in God’s former judgments, so was fire em-  
ployed against Scdom. By fire is the world at last to  
be destroyed. This glassy sea emitting flame combines  
those two instruments of God’s indignation. It typifies  
that which is established at the close—‘‘ the lake (or  
pool) of fire and brimstone.”  
The first martyrs were shown in chapters vi. and xii.  
The new series arising from the persecution of the False  
Christ has now exhibited itself.  
In one view, the martyrs are conquered. To the eye  
of sense they are fools, who warred in vain against the  
King of kings, and were defeated. xiii. 7. But their  
defeat is apparent only ; they lost life for Christ’s sake,  
and now they find it. Theirs was the victory of courage,  
and of patience unto death: they are conquerors  
in resurrection. For the Wild Beast inflicts death.  
  
2?