cu. xvi. 2] EXPOUNDED 403  
  
(2) Job was supernaturally stricken with this dis-  
order. Job ii. 7, 8.  
(3) Hezekiah’s malady preternaturally sent, and  
miraculously healed, was an abscess or boil. Isa.  
xxxviii. 21.  
(4) The emerods sent on the Philistines were pro-  
bably something of the kind. 1 Sam. v., vi.  
(5) On Miriam God sent the leprosy as a punish-  
ment for speaking against Moses. Num. xii. 10. Here  
there is blasphemy against God.  
Boils were one of the plagues threatened to Israel by  
the Law, if they broke Jehovah’s covenant. Deut.  
xxviii. 15, 27, 35; Lev. xxvi. 16. This has never yet  
been fulfilled ; and as the whole law to its least tittle  
must be accomplished, this plague must be inflicted.  
The ulcer or boil is ‘“‘noisome,” or “bad.” This  
epithet probably refers to its pain. Its being “ malig-  
nant ” affirms, no doubt, the difficulty or impossibility of  
healing it. It continues, I suppose, through all the  
other plagues.  
The mark of the Wild Beast is a literal mark on the  
body, attesting every one who receives it to be a wor-  
shipper of the False Christ. Each impresses it on  
himself. God owns this mark of Satan in wrath. An  
intelligent offended God spares His people who are  
marked on the forehead with the seal of God. But  
every worshipper of God’s enemy receives a foul and  
painful mark in the flesh which is dedicated to the  
Wild Beast, in token of the displeasure of Jehovah.  
Their god can neither defend them from it, nor heal  
them under it. Not a few worship the False Christ to  
escape death. But though they are permitted by him  
to live, God makes their life painful, ere they sink into  
the second death.  
By the true Messiah diseases were healed. Under the  
False Messiah miraculous disease assails his followers,