pondered. Hereby then is *destroyed the unscriptural  
idea*, that *prophecy is only intended to benefit us*, by the  
perception of its fulfilment, *after its prophetic aspect is  
past*.  
 What season and time is at hand? *That of “temptation,”* against which we shall do well to watch and  
pray; *that of “harvest,”* in which *the ripe* shall be  
*taken*, and the *unripe left*; that of *“refreshing,”* in  
which the long-stored *promises of the prophets* shall be  
fulfilled; *that of “judgment,”* when every work shall  
come into notice, whether it be good or evil; and *the*  
*time of “reward”* to the saints.  
 The prophecy is not to be put off, as something not  
demanding our present study, because relating to things  
immeasurably remote. “The season is *near*.” Long  
as the time is which has elapsed since that was written,  
there was then, and is now, *no necessary interval* to  
arise ere the prophetic part begins to be fulfilled. In  
this it is *contrasted with Daniel*, who is dismissed from  
study of his prophecies, because *the book is sealed* up,  
and a long time must pass ere it be fulfilled.  
 It is *practical*. Hear that, all you who think that  
nothing is worthy of study which is not so! Yes; the  
*prophecy is practical*! “Blessed ... they who keep  
the things written in it.” In order *rightly to understand it*, we must be *right in our spiritual position* before  
God; and of *a single eye*, willing to *follow the truth*  
wherever it may lead us.  
 Reader, do you love to set yourself where the God of  
all pronounces you “blessed”? Is that a sunshine  
wherein to bask? Then are you in it while reading and  
hearing “the prophecy of this book.”  
  
4. “John to the seven churches which are in Asia; Grace be  
unto you and peace, from Him who is, and who was, and who is  
to come, and from the seven Spirits that are before His throne;