CHAPTER X

1. “And I saw another mighty angel coming down out of the  
heaven, clothed with a cloud, and the rainbow was upon his head,  
and his face was as the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire.”  
  
THIS descent of the angel properly comes after Satan’s  
defeat and ejection from on high. He comes in  
might, the representative of the throne, to claim earth  
for God, who purposes to subdue it to Himself by *power*.  
The calls of mercy have been refused: rebellion lifts  
up its head. God must therefore vindicate His insulted  
rights by the might of war.  
 Jesus, then, is the person before us; “the angel of the  
covenant,” the manifester of the designs of the throne.  
But He has not forgotten His covenant. The rainbow  
that was about the throne is now encircling His head.  
The book that was in the hand of the enthroned One,  
is now held by Him. The thunders of the throne  
answer Him. This angel is the great antagonist of the  
Antichrist, who comes as “the angel of the abyss”  
from below, enveloped in a “cloud” of smoke of the  
pit.  
 What are the angel’s purposes in thus descending?  
 1. He comes as a *witness*. He sends forth two other  
witnesses. Mal. iii. 5.  
 He comes to notice and report on high the effect of  
the seals and trumpets. Had men listened to these  
sounds of awe? Or did each rush on his course, as the  
horse into the battle?