heavens, O Lord, and come down: *touch the mountains,  
and they shall smoke*” (Ps. cxliv. 5).  
  
 2. “And he had in his hand a little book opened: and he set  
his right foot upon the sea, but his left foot upon the earth.”  
  
 This little book, we suppose, is the one which the  
Lamb took and opened, and which Jesus in another  
character now holds and gives to His servant John. It  
is a “*little* book,” because God’s “*short* work” is now  
about to be accomplished upon earth. Rom. ix. 28.  
 As the eaten book gives the passing away of mystery,  
and the Lord’s people’s perception of it, we can account  
for its being first sweet, and then bitter. It is sweet to  
know that the character of God shall be displayed in  
all its fulness, and the glory shall come. But ’tis  
bitter to think of the destruction which shall befall the  
enemies of God.  
 His attitude also is significant. His right foot is set  
on the sea, and his left on the land. This posture is  
that of one claiming them both. Deut. xi. 24; Ps. viii.  
6. The kings of Persia asserted their claim to a land,  
by demanding earth and water.  
 His foot is *on* the sea; not, as a mortal’s would be, *in*  
it. Thrice is this named. So Jesus walked of old on  
the sea. Matt. xiv. 25.  
 This claim is resisted by Satan, his angels, and the  
non-elect of earth. The cause is tried by battle.  
  
 3. “And he cried with a great voice, as a lion roareth; and  
when he cried, the seven thunders spake their own voices.”  
  
 From his actions we are left to gather his feelings.  
His loud voice, resembling the lion’s roar, indicates displeasure, and that the time is near to avenge. The  
lion roars, just before he springs on his prey. In the  
address to John, and afterwards to the churches, Jesus’  
voice was of other characters: first, like a trumpet, then  
like the sound of many waters. i. 10, 15. His voice