*itself that is destroyed at the commencement of this trump,*but only those who “corrupt,” or “destroy” earth.  
The Greek word used has both meanings, and while it  
were the most satisfactory to take both words in the  
same sense, it is not easy to do so in this case, but both  
seem to be included. Why are they distinguished  
from the angry “nations”? I suppose it is because  
they are religious bodies, which may be composed of  
individuals of any nations whatsoever.  
 It would seem as if there were three great classes  
designed by this expression.  
 (1) First, it relates manifestly to the partisans of  
Great Babylon. For of her this expression is used.  
“He hath judged the Great Whore, which did *corrupt*  
(or destroy 1) *the earth* with her fornication, and hath  
avenged the blood of His servants at her hand” (xix. 2).  
But Babylon, after her destruction in her first form,  
takes another, and in that second form is totally consumed of God.  
 (2) It would seem, too, to embrace those who destroy the earth under Antichrist, as being the second  
great company of rebels.  
 Their leader is Apollyon or Abaddon, the Great  
*Destroyer*. Babylon and the False Christ are closely  
conjoined in action and destiny in the closing days of  
this dispensation. Reference is here made, as Hengstenberg has observed, to the times of the Flood. “*The  
earth* also *was corrupt*2 before God, and the earth was  
filled with violence. And God looked upon *the earth,  
and behold, it was corrupt*2 for all flesh had *corrupted*2  
*its way upon the earth*. And God said into Noah, The  
end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is  
filled with violence through them; and behold I will  
*destroy* (*corrupt*2) *them with the earth*” (Gen. vi. 11-13).  
  
1 Φθείρω. In Rev. xi. the word διαφθείρω is used.  
2 In Hebrew שָׁחַת, in the Greek φθείρω or καταφθείρω.