faith are rewarded by a place in the millennial glory and  
reign. xx. 4.  
 Flight is the only permitted mode of escaping this  
day of temptation. And only the flight into the  
wilderness is successful.  
 The Two Witnesses resisted by miracle, and slew  
others; but were slain themselves. But here God calls  
off all from employing force. Patience and faith are the  
only true armour. If any would preserve their lives,  
they must be patient. This is, I believe, the meaning  
of Luke xxi. 19, “By your patience obtain ye your  
lives.” The same is the sentiment of Matt. xxiv. 13,  
“He that shall endure to the end, the same shall be  
saved.” Patience! Let the forty-two months roll by,  
and the Destroyer shall be no more!  
 God’s name is blasphemed, the saints are slain, infernal  
powers rule, false worship is compelled under pain of  
death. “Why not stand in self-defence? why not (the  
flesh will say) appeal to the God of Armies?” Because  
it is forbidden, because it will be unsuccessful, and will  
draw down the avenging bolt of judgment on the warrior  
who girds on his sword. The king of whom Samuel  
warned Israel is come. They cry to God against him,  
and He “*will not hear in that day*” (1 Sam. viii. 18).  
 There are only three lawful attitudes. (1) The  
resistance by *miracle*, found in the Two Witnesses alone,  
and related in a previous series. (2) *Flight*, chap. xii.  
(3) *Patience*, as here required. But so difficult is the  
lesson that it has to be enforced again, in the next  
chapter. xiv. 9-12.  
 Antichrist is smitten with the sword, but overcomes  
it in resurrection. By the sword of mortals he is not  
to be overcome again. It is victorious on his side. In  
one respect he resembles Mohammed, for he uses the  
sword against refusers of his worship. But Mohammed  
professed to be only a prophet of God. This One proclaims