“The *hour* of his judgment is come.”  
 This is more than “the *day* of his judgment.” It  
bespeaks a brief, definite time of wrath, close at hand.  
It refers to the Bowls (vials) and the Vintage. It is  
about to descend on those who worship any other God  
than the Creator. The appeal bears alike against  
atheism and polytheism: “There *is* a God, the Creator:  
there is but *one* God.”  
 “Worship him that made the heaven.”  
 What a state must earth be in, when this primary  
truth needs to be asserted! The Jew worships a God  
of miracle: the Christian worships God as redeeming,  
Father, Son, and Spirit. In that day, the first elements  
of truth are called in question, and denied; yet the  
wicked prosper.  
 Those who acknowledge and obey this message become “the sheep” of Matt. xxv., “the fearers of God,” of Rev. xi. 18.  
 It would seem that this message of the angel must  
precede the Wild Beast’s claims. It would come in  
vain after any have rendered him worship.  
 From this appeal of the angel we learn, that the sense  
of “heaven, earth, and sea, and fountains,” is literal.  
God claims worship as Creator of these things: therefore  
the literal objects of nature are intended. These  
four last great features of creation appear in the plagues  
which follow, and in the order here named. There, too,  
therefore, they are literal. God shows Himself the God  
of heaven, by making the sun to scorch. He proves Himself God of the earth, by the earthquake: God of the  
sea and fountains, by turning them into blood (chap. xvi.).