of God1: 18. that ye may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of  
chief captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of  
horses, and of them that ride on them, and the flesh of all, both  
freemen and slaves, both small and great.”  
  
 There is a passage in Ezekiel which greatly resembles  
this. Ezek. xxxix. 17-22.  
 There the same scene is presented as it affects Israel.  
There the Antichrist is prince of Ross [Russia];  
Meshech [Moscow]; and Tubal [Tobolsk]. He comes  
with an immense army, invading the land of Palestine. On Israel’s mountains is he smitten and  
then the kingdom comes, and Israel never falls away  
from God again, nor is smitten any more.  
 The birds that fly “in mid-heaven” are called. It  
is that portion of the heaven which lies between the  
earth and the true or more distant heaven. Eagles  
and vultures soar high above the plains of earth, and  
far above the smaller birds. At vast distances they  
discern their prey, and swoop on it. Distance from  
the spot is a matter of small importance to those possessed of such rapid and powerful pinions. The hateful  
birds of night dwell in fallen Babylon: the active  
carnivorous birds descend on the armies of the False  
Christ. In so vast a feast there shall be enough for all  
the birds of prey of all the earth. And no doubt  
answering thereto there shall be a supernatural assembly of these birds scenting the prey from afar.  
 Why does the angel-herald in this case “stand in  
the sun”? I cannot tell. His voice is a shout, and  
of mighty force, that it may reach through the vast  
distance.  
 “Come, be gathered.”  
 Evil angels gather the kings to fight. A good angel  
gathers the birds to prey on them. All creatures belong to God: His call they obey. They now show  
  
1 So Tregelles.