amidst the children of the Wicked One, their kin.  
There are finally but two states, heaven and hell.  
The lake of fire is hell, or “Gehenna of fire.”  
 Thrice the words “the lake of fire” close the adjoining  
sentence at the conclusion of the chapter. The  
Holy Spirit would have the awful sound dwell on our  
ears, and sink into our hearts. It is the consummation  
of the *altar* and the *laver* in the temple. The laver  
was the place of water for washing that which was  
unclean. The altar was the place of fire to consume  
the victim. The place of the lost, then, unites these  
points. ’Tis the place of the permanently unclean;  
’tis a lake. ’Tis the place of the victims of divine  
wrath; ’tis an altar of everburning fire.  
 As, then, the places of all the tenants of earth have  
been decided for ever, and none but the elect enter the  
new earth, the final state must be stable.  
 None, then, of these will ever fall. God undertakes  
their upholding. The new covenant rests entirely on  
God’s power, not on man’s.