God; and when the question was
asked, "Who shall go forth and redeem
mankind?" Lucifer, the Son of the Morn-
ing, this angel who stood in the pres-
ence of God, answered and said, "Here
am I, send me; I will go forth and re-
deem all mankind, that not one soul
shall be lost." But the only begotten Son
of the Father, who was with the Father
from the beginning, replied and said,
"Father, thy will be done, and the glory
be thine forever." And here a rebellion
rose up between Satan, the Son of the
Morning, and the Son of the living God,
as to the redemption of mankind. One
sought to destroy the plan of God and the
agency that the Lord intended to give to
intelligent beings, and to redeem them
whether they would be redeemed or not;
and because he considered that his plan
was so good before the heavens, and so
much superior to the plan that God had
devised, said he, "Surely I will do it;
wherefore give me thine honor, which is
the power of God." That is, he sought to
obtain the throne of the Almighty, and
to carry out his own purposes in pref-
erence to yielding to the purposes and
power of the Almighty. This rebellion
became so great, and the influence of it
spread so rapidly among the heavenly
host, that one-third part of the heav-
enly throng, I mean the spirits, rebelled
against God and followed the evil de-
sign and purpose of this angel. No doubt
some of them thought that they could
accomplish their design; for they had
not a knowledge of the future designs
and purposes of God, only in a small
degree, and consequently they supposed
that their plan was better than that of
the Almighty; and in this great rebel-
 lion the Lord caused Satan, or Lucifer,
the Son of the Morning, and those who
followed him, to be cast out of Heaven.

We may form some little calculation
of the vast numbers thus thrown out
of Heaven, when we consider that they
were one-third of all the spirits that were
born, intended for this creation. Only
two-thirds kept their first estate, and
they have the great privilege of coming
here to this creation and taking bodies
of flesh and bones, tabernacles wherein
their spirits may dwell, to prepare them-
sehemselves for a more glorious state of exis-
tence hereafter. If, then, only two-thirds
of the hosts of Heaven are to come to our
earth to tabernacle in the flesh, we may
form some idea of the vast number who
fell. Already our earth has teemed for
six thousand years with numberless mil-
lions of human beings whose spirits ex-
isted before the foundation of the world.
Those who now exist probably number
one thousand or twelve hundred mil-
lions. Twelve hundred millions of spir-
its now dwelling in mortal flesh! Think
of the immense numbers who must have
preceded us and the myriads who are to
come! These are the two-thirds who kept
their first estate. Their numbers, prob-
ably, cannot be less than two hundred
thousand millions, leaving, as an ap-
proximate estimate, one hundred thou-
sand millions of rebellious spirits or dev-
ils who were cast out from Heaven and
banished to this creation, having no priv-
ilege of fleshy tabernacles.

It was in the Garden of Eden that the
devil, or one of those foul spirits, entered
into a certain animal or beast, called a
serpent, and came before our first par-
ents and beguiled them, and they suf-
f ered themselves to partake of the for-
bidden fruit. If, then, they were in the
earth as early as the Garden of Eden,
no doubt, they have been here from that
day to this, and that the earth is the
place of their habitation. They wander to