of the inhabitants of our globe have
taken into consideration the great
preparatory work for this grand change;
they have not searched the Scriptures
in regard to how this work is to be ac-
complished, and who the persons will
be who will be ready and prepared to
abide that day; how that great change
will come, and what the signs of it will
be they know not, and yet the Bible is
very plain and full in relation to these
matters.

The words of our text communicate
to us the knowledge that a proclama-
tion is to become so conspicuous at that
day, that all the inhabitants of the world
and dwellers on the earth will be re-
quired to see and understand, when the
Lord commences this work, when he lifts
up an ensign on the mountains. I sup-
pose that a great many have been look-
ing for the Lord to do something, but
in what portion of our globe he would
commence his work they did not know.
There are some few, who have searched
the Bible diligently, who have been look-
ing for the kingdom of God to be set up
on the earth in the latter times, never
to be destroyed. Some have supposed
that the kingdom that was built up by
the early Christians, some eighteen hun-
dred years ago, was that kingdom pre-
dicted by the Prophet Daniel. Others,
not being able to reconcile the ideas
communicated by Daniel on this sub-
ject, have looked forward to a day when
there should be, literally, a kingdom es-
blished on this earth by the power
of God in fulfillment of the prophecy of
Daniel. Those who have believed, or
tried to believe, that the ancient Chris-
tians constituted that kingdom, have
been at a loss as to how it could exist
broken up into a thousand fragments,
a thousand different classes of people
with as many different faiths clashing
one with another. They have said in their
hearts—"Is this the kingdom of God,
where there is no union?" Some two hun-
dred millions of the human family pro-
fessing Christianity, and yet contending
one with another about their doctrines
and principles, one believing a doctrine
and another condemning that doctrine
and believing something directly differ-
ent. Another discarding both these doc-
trines and believing in something else,
and so on, until inextricable confusion is
the result. They have looked upon the
babel thus created as something so dif-
ferent from the nature of that kingdom
predicted by the ancient Prophets, that
they have been unable to reconcile the
idea in their own minds that it could pos-
sibly be the kingdom of God.

Suppose that we quote the passage in
the second chapter of Daniel, in regard
to the setting up of God's kingdom. It is
there said that Nebuchadnezzar, King of
Babylon, had a dream, which portrayed
before him all the kingdoms of the earth
for many generations, under the simili-
tude of a great image, whose head was of
gold, breast and arms of silver, belly and
thighs of brass, legs of iron, and feet part
of iron and part of potter's clay. Besides
the image he, in his dream, beheld some-
thing entirely distinct therefrom, and
forming no part nor portion of it, cut
out of the mountains without hands. It
was called a stone from the mountains,
which smote this great image, represent-
ing the kingdoms of the world, upon
the feet, and when the feet were smit-
ten all the other kingdoms crumbled to
pieces, and they were carried away be-
fore the force of this little stone like the
chaff of the summer threshingfloor, and
no place could be found for them; but
the stone that smote the image became a