

**THE END NOT YET: A REPLY TO
DR. CUMMING'S NEW WORK,
"THE GREAT TRIBULATION, OR,
THE THINGS COMING ON THE
EARTH"**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649329496

The end not yet: a reply to Dr. Cumming's new work, "The great tribulation, or, The things coming on the Earth" by W. Elfe Tayler

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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OR,

THE THINGS COMING ON THE EARTH."

BY

W. ELFE TAYLER,

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the Christian Church of the Third Century," "The
Last Days," &c., &c.*

"AND YE SHALL HEAR OF WARS, AND RUMOURS OF WARS; SEE THAT YE BE
NOT TROUBLED: FOR ALL THESE THINGS MUST COME TO PASS, BUT THE
END IS NOT YET."

—MATT. xxiv. 6.

Bristol:

PUBLISHED BY W. MACK, 52, WINE STREET.

London:

WERTHEIM AND MACINTOSH, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1889.

101. d. 501.

Bristol: Printed by W. MACK, 52, Wine Street.



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CHAPTER I.

Dr. Cumming's Theory of the "Great Tribulation."

BEFORE entering upon the task of disproving the extravagant and absurd theory which Dr. CUMMING has brought before the public, as to the approaching end of the world, or present dispensation, it will be proper to state clearly what that theory is. We shall do this in his own words, for two reasons. First, because it is always more satisfactory to the reader, and more just to the writer to do this; and, secondly, because Dr. CUMMING has said so little about prophecy, throughout his whole work, that it will be easy, in the compass of a few pages, to place before the reader nearly the whole of it. Here is a book of *four hundred and seventy-nine pages*; yet, will it be believed? there are scarcely a *dozen* pages consisting of direct prophetic exposition. There are grand prophetic *titles* of lectures—and striking prophetic *texts* of Scripture for mottos to lectures, and running titles, on the top of every page,—but very little in the Lectures themselves on the subjects thus paraded before the eye. A more disappointing book, in this sense, we never remember to have perused.

The first chapter of the book is full of promise. It is on "The Glorious Deliverance." The text of Scripture selected as the motto is,—“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one *that shall be found written in the book*” (Dan. xii. 1).

“I accept,” thus commences the author, “the generally received opinion of commentators, that Michael, the prince that standeth for the ancient people of God, is not a created angel, but our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The prophecy seems to imply that having long been seated on his throne as Mediator, interceding in behalf of his own, that man’s extremity will become his opportunity; and that he will stand up towards the close of this present Christian economy, amid miracles, and stupendous phenomena, and great and startling issues in behalf of his cast-off, but not finally cast-out people, the remnants of the house of Judah and of Israel. It is plain from the language, ‘thy people,’ addressed to Daniel, an inspired prophet, and yet an enthusiastic and patriotic Jew, that the interposition of Christ on this occasion will be primarily in behalf of that remarkable race still preserved, often assailed, but never crushed; like their own burning bush, always blazing, and not consumed; and that the time will come when they, so long cast out, shall at length be grafted in, and restored to their own land; for a Deliverer, as quoted by the Apostle in the Epistle to the Romans, shall come out of Sion, and shall turn away unworldliness from all the children of Jacob. ‘Thy people,’ therefore are primarily the Jews.”

Then follows, after a long digression, about the dispersion of the Jews, and the abduction of the Jewish boy Mortara, and the residence of the Prince of Wales in Rome, and so forth:—

“At this period of trouble Christ interposes; having no sympathy with him that assumes to represent him, and stands up amidst stupendous miracles of mercy and of unobliterated love, in

behalf of a people persecuted, a by-word, a scoff and a hissing among all nations ; restores them to their land ; replaces them in their ancient and illustrious capital.

“ But when this takes place, there will be a time of great trouble. ‘ At that time there will be a time of such trouble as has not been on the earth since there was a nation ;’ and which is stated in the New Testament to be a time of such trouble that there never will be any trouble equal to it. We have that time of trouble delineated in St. Matthew, where, after some portraits of the judgments upon Jerusalem, he gives a reference, clear and unmistakable, to the close of this present economy. The great time of trouble began in 1848 : in other words, it synchronises with the pouring out of the seventh vial ; at which the first shock of the great European earthquake occurred : its succeeding shocks still steadily occur, year after year. Review at your leisure the events that have transpired since that time. Why we are no sooner out of one trouble—I mean the world—than we are plunged into another. In 1849, Europe, Asia, America, were desolated by an overwhelming pestilence ; in 1850, Rome, anticipating its ruin, made its last spasmodic grasp or clutch at the sceptre of England, if perchance it might retain a last footing before it goes down into the depths of ruin. In 1851, we had a bright glimpse, by way of symbol, earnest, or type of millennial peace. Then, after that we had the first hint of the complications in the East ; then, from 1854, a war which has sent streams of bitterness into many a happy English home, and left cold shadows upon many a once-bounding English heart. The dead that sleep in the distant Crimea will not soon be forgotten ; and I trust the memories of the brave that fell there will never come before us without thanks and gratitude for those that so heroically fought, and many of them so hopefully and piously fell. No sooner had the Russian war been closed, than the great Indian storm burst upon Asia ; an Empire was in peril ; and again how many homes have lost their brightest lights in consequence of that cruel, atrocious, and murderous outburst of a deceived, infatuated, and misguided native population ! No sooner had that been lulled, by God’s blessing on the heroism of our troops, and the sagacious diplomacy of those who had to rule the storm, than, like a thunder-cloud, we saw all Europe mustering to battle ; and upon the beautiful plains of Italy half a million of men met in deadly conflict, and thousands are numbered with the dead. I stated before, what many thought, was impossible, that Russia’s destiny