By the great earthquake, we are to understand a great political shaking of
some nation, whereby the government shall be overthrown and broken in
pieces, as really as any part of the earth was ever broken and destroyed by a nat-
ural earthquake. *** And in this earthquake, which will be a sudden and sur-
prizing Revolution, different from all others, there will be slain of names of
men seven thousand; or, the whole number of the titles, or names of distinc-
tion will be destroyed; and all this will take place in a most sudden and unex-
pected manner.

Now look at the Revolution, and overturning of the government in France,
and see if this prophecy is not exactly fulfilled, and therein a full proof given
that the second woe is past, beyond all dispute; and this epoch is therefore inter-
esting to all Christians in the highest degree.

I regard the late events in France, therefore, as Signs of the Times, and they
mark the close of the preceding period with great exactness; and in this light
their consequence is very great: they shew us whereabouts we are, and tend to
confirm the authority of the Scriptures, and especially the book of the Revela-
tion of St. John.

A new and very important period is now beginning to take place, under the
sound of the Seventh Trumpet, which will continue to sound from this time,
'till after the personal appearance of Jesus, 'till all the seven vials of the wrath
of God are poured out, and until the kingdoms of this world are become the king-
doms of our Lord, and of his Christ.

But great will be the woes and desolations that will come upon the world
before this happy event will take place. And for this reason, the seventh trum-
pet is properly denominated a woe trumpet, for the woes that will take place
while it is sounding, will be great beyond example, and terrible beyond
description.

Under the seventh trumpet our glorious Savior will personally appear: I
have already observed, that he will come between the time of the sixth and
seventh vial; all these awful dispensations that are taking place are solemn
preparations for that event; and therefore our Lord charges us when we hear
of wars and rumors of wars, to see that we be not troubled; for all these things
must come to pass. *** The coming of our Savior in glory, is such a joyful event
in itself, and will be followed by so many glorious consequences, that it is
almost impossible for a true christian to think of it without exultation. And this will actually take place under the sound of the seventh trumpet.

It is very easy to see that in a very short time all nations shall be brought to yield obedience to him; and the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign, eis tous aionas tan aionon; which our translators have translated forever and ever, but which appears (in Chap. xx.2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) to be only a thousand years, and is six times limited to that period. So that here the words which are used imply hidden duration, or ages of ages, without specifying the exact length of the periods: But in Chap. xx the time is made known with great exactness. * * * There is nothing in this view of the kingdom of Christ, that has any tendency to give umbrage or dissatisfaction to the present monarchs, kings, rulers, or governors of the earth, for though all the kingdoms of the world shall become the Lord’s, and his Christ’s, yet this is no encouragement for any usurpers to rise and seize upon them, under a pretence of their being the Lord’s people, and that they are going to take possession of the kingdoms for him; for Christ himself will come in person, to take the kingdoms of this world under his government, so that this part of my text will not be accomplished till after his appearing in glory, and the first resurrection has taken place.

I will now as a close of this discourse, just mention the blessings of the Millennium, or the personal kingdom of our Lord upon the earth. * * *

The kingdom or government of Christ shall be absolutely universal, and shall extend over the whole earth: All nations shall know his name, and shall serve and obey him. * * *

His government shall be just, equitable, righteous, friendly to mankind, especially to the poor and needy. * * *

Another blessing that shall take place under the Messiah’s government, shall be universal and constant peace during the whole period of his reign. * * *

The earth shall be filled with plenty as well as peace, and neither war, famine, pestilence, nor the terrible fierceness of wild beasts shall annoy, hurt, destroy, or even terrify the inhabitants of the earth in those blessed days. * * *

In those blessed times there shall be no differences of sentiment: All shall be harmony and love: No contradiction in the public instructions: All ministers shall agree, in principle and practice, in faith and worship. * * *

* * * When this perfect unity takes place among believers, the conversion of the whole world shall commence, and all shall bow at the scepter of Jesus and become the willing subjects of his kingdom. * * *