

THE GLORIES OF THE WORD.

The lights of God which sweetly shine
 In earliest books divine,
 As morning hours to noonday lead,
 Along the volume shine.

'Tis but the same though brightening sun
 Which clearer, warmer grows ;
 The clouds which veil'd his rising beam
 Fly ere the evening close.

There are "silent glances," references, from one part of Scripture to another, that are deeper even than quotations. Instances of these are found in the Lord's ministry, as though His soul was so impregnated with the Word that He had tacit, quiet alliance with the breathing of God in the Old Testament.

He knew how to impress on each moment its Scriptural character.

In the case of Nathaniel, John i., a silent glance seems to have been in the Lord's mind to Psalm xxxii., where the secret of having "no guile" in the spirit is disclosed; confession of all secrets which might try to hide themselves before God, and pardon meeting them.—Nathaniel, we might judge, had thus been confessing (the fig-tree always is the symbol of repentance,) and the Lord sees him in the light of this Psalm.

The last verse of this chapter may be another instance. Jacob's ladder would seem to have supplied the figure there, the ministry of angels *now* is taught by it—the word should rather be "henceforth" than "hereafter."

We want to be in company with the Lord Jesus. He had a thousand links formed between His soul and the Scriptures of God. So it should be with us. His references were as the glance of an eye familiar with its object.

The glories of the Word and our alliance with it should be our safeguard

against the violence that will tamper with it.

The word of John the Baptist, "Behold the Lamb of God," was a reference to the shadows of the law—the morning and evening lamb—the lamb provided for shelter and food in the night of Egypt; and perhaps without undue pressure we might also say the "ram caught in a thicket" on Mount Moriah. Each pointed to Him who now stood before John in outstanding living personality. The Lord was putting various, all kinds of honor upon Scripture; by using it in temptation; by fulfilling it to the utmost jot or title; and as a Teacher, He who was Truth, embodied it, used it.

In John xix. 28, at the last moment there was a Scripture to be fulfilled, and because of that He said, "I thirst."

In the Acts we still find a close and intimate interweaving of the parts of the Divine volume.

A quotation is a divine seal put upon a thing *after* it has gone forth, as its first utterance was the announcement of the same Spirit.

We find this wondrous quality in Scripture; it refers behind its proper boundaries, and discloses eternity that is *past*—it overlaps again its bounds, and goes into eternity *before*, and thus bespeaks the authorship of the Book. It is a display of multiplied moral wonders; and one Spirit animates it from beginning to end.—J. G. BELLETT.

FACING THE TRUTH.

It is always a foolish thing for people to close their eyes to the truth, and yet it is one of the most natural things for the natural man to do. The sinner out of Christ believes in his heart that he