

as when we aim in all things to please him. Jesus pleased him always and in all things, and he was pleased with his Father, kept his commandments and abode in his love, though his lot was the hardest that was ever endured. When we seek to please God in all things, we are most likely to please ourselves; we often find this a difficult matter, and so sure as we aim at it we shall miss the mark. We are not pleased with our prayers, our praises, our graces, our lot, or any thing we do; and it is generally going ill with us, if we are. But if we sought simply to please God more, we should look at self and our own things less; we should mourn over failings, grieve at short comings, and seek grace, that we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. A true Christian never can please or satisfy himself, but as he pleases God. If we sought only to please God, we should doubtless please God's spiritual people more. How often do we grieve, vex, and displease members of the heaven-born family; and why? Very frequently it is because we are so unlovely in our tempers, ways, and deportment; so little like Jesus, so much like the world. But if pleasing God was our constant object, we should be much with God, and be often beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, and become changed into the same image, from glory to glory, as by the spirit of the Lord. * *

INTERESTING SIGHT.

One day Mr. Venn told his children, that in the evening he would take them to see one of the most interesting sights in the world. They were anxious to know what it was, but he deferred gratifying their curiosity till he brought them to the scene itself. He led them to a miserable hovel, whose ruinous wall and broken windows bespoke an extreme degree of

poverty and want. 'Now,' said he, 'my dear children, can any one that lives in such a habitation as this be happy? Yet this is not all; a poor man lies upon a miserable straw bed within it, dying with disease, at the age of only nineteen, consumed with constant fever, and afflicted with nine painful ulcers.' 'How wretched a situation!' they all exclaimed. He then led them into the cottage, and, addressing the poor young man, said, 'Abraham Midwood, I have brought my children here to shew them that it was possible to be happy in a state of disease, poverty, and want; and now tell them if it be not so.' The dying youth, with a smile of benevolence and piety, immediately replied, 'Oh, yes, sir; I would not change my state with that of the richest person upon earth, who was destitute of those views which I possess. Blessed be God, I have a good hope through Christ of being admitted into those blessed regions where Lazarus now dwells, having long forgotten all his sorrows and miseries. Sir, there is nothing to fear, whilst the presence of God cheers my soul, and whilst I can have access to him by constant prayer, through faith in Jesus. Indeed, sir, I am truly happy, and I trust to be happy and blessed through eternity; and I every hour thank God, who has brought me from a state of darkness into his marvellous light, and has given me to enjoy the unsearchable riches of his grace.' The impression made by this discourse upon his young hearers was never effaced.—*Life of the Rev. H. Venn.*

CHRIST IS ALL-POWERFUL.—Many people talk about having strong corruptions. Why, if I have a strong corruption, I have got a strong Christ to conquer it, and then it is a weak corruption.—*R. Hill.*

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."—*Paul.*