

There is the *promise of answers to believing prayer*. Thus it was given to Israel of old. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."\* Thus it is given to the followers of Jesus. "Whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."† Hence it is the privilege of these to say, "This is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask any thing according to his will he heareth us; and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask we know that we have the petitions, that we desire of Him."‡

There is the *promise of inward peace and joy*. "The Lord will speak peace to his people and to his saints."§ The work of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever."|| "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you."¶

There is the *promise of support in trouble*. Thus it is said, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble,"\*\* and again, "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble and he knoweth them that trust in Him."†† Hence the encouraging exhortation, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee,"‡‡ and hence the cheering invitation of the Son of God, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."§§

There is the *promise of special support in a dying hour*. As in general it is promised to the suffering believer that "the Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing," that "he will make all his bed in his sickness,"|||| so more particularly is it pledged to him, that "the rod and staff of his God shall sustain him, when passing through the valley

\* Isa. 40. 31.

† Isa. 32. 17.

‡† Psal. 55. 22.

† Mat. 21. 22.

¶ John 14. 27.

§§ Mat. 11. 29.

‡ 1 John 5. 14, 15.

\*\* Psal. 46. 1.

|||| Psal. 41. 5.

§ Psal. 85. 8.

†† Nahum 1. 7.

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