

er, his unsearchable riches, and
ness. The contemplation of
reveals, is naturally calculated to
a which it requires.

o of confounding the revealed
his secret purposes, by entang-
any doubtful inquiry whether
ected and predestinated to eter-
rticular decrees of God are not
ject of your faith; they cannot
they be accomplished; nor can
more preposterous, than pre-
ry into the secret counsels of
instead of complying with what
required. You are not present-
mine what God has purposed
out to hear what he has reveal-
o believe in the sincerity of his
one, and trust in him for that
e has graciously exhibited.

ord, therefore, as *presently ad-*
much as any others, by the var-
invitations, and promises of the
erely *reply* to what he says,
word into the prayer of faith.
asion for saying, "Who shall
en, to bring Christ down from
ord is nigh, in your mouth and
d the Lord is nigh to observe
it. If you had been a hearer of
e of his personal ministry when
unto me all ye that labour, and
and I will give you rest," would
ied, "Behold I come unto thee,

for thou hast the words of eternal life?" Or,
you been present in the hour of his suffering, w
the penitent malefactor said, "Lord, remem-
me, when thou comest into thy kingdom," w
you not have taken encouragement from the
cious answer of Jesus, to say, Lord, remem-
me also, and bring me to the heavenly parad
Jesus reigns over the kingdom of God, as a mig
compassionate Saviour; and he now addresses
from his celestial throne, saying, "If any n
thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. W
soever will, let him take the water of life free
Him that cometh to me I will in nowise c
out." Do you now believe that he is calling y
to come, that his invitation is sincere, and th
he is worthy of your confidence? Then, po
out your heart before him, and plead importuna
ly for acceptance, on the ground of his faithf
word; for whosoever shall call upon the name
the Lord, shall be saved."

Persevere for some time in applying to Jes
by the prayer of faith, before you begin to loo
for those fruits of faith which distinguish h
genuine disciples. The word of the Lord wor
effectually in them who cordially receive it, b
bringing forth good fruit; but it works gradually
like the earth which produces "first the blade
then the ear, and after that the full corn in th
ear." If you suddenly withdraw your attention
from the object of faith, to search for the fruit
of it, its influence in purifying your heart will
thereby be greatly weakened, your spiritual joy
will be interrupted, and your unbelieving fear
revived. Therefore hold fast the beginning o