
SOUL RESTORATION.

experiences of the new life are too exquisite to be exhausted by any imagery. The Lord gives not merely a sufficiency, but a superabundance; not vines merely, but vineyards. He gives like a king—gives as if He knew not how much to give. Some of us have experienced His munificence. We have been abundantly satisfied with the fatness of His house and He has made us to drink of the rivers of His pleasure. What entrancing experiences were those which thrilled the soul of the sweet singer of Israel when he knew that he had been forgiven! What ecstasies of joy filled the heart of Peter, when, notwithstanding his apostasy, he was assured of his restoration to the Saviour's confidence and love! What deep, rich, overwhelming emotions were those of the prodigal when, not merely his father's house, but his father's heart, were his once more! Oh, yes, this is the kingly fashion in which our Lord treats the contrite soul that has been brought to loathe his sin and sue for mercy. "And I will give her her vineyards from thence."

Here we have again—

2. *An Inspiring Hope.*

"And the valley of Achor for a door of hope." This valley was memorable in Israel's history as that in which the displeasure of the Almighty rested upon them because of Achan's sin. It was all but being the scene of their utter extermination by the Canaanites. They must have spent therein