

lost in the boundless prospect of eternity. Earth became a shadow; "the powers of the world to come" laid hold of him and were to him the only realities. He became blind to the world's glory, pride, pomp, wealth, and pleasure. The light of heavenly glory was so dazzling that he could not see lesser lights. And thus it is with every converted soul. Earth has no attractions for such an one. As Christian and Faithful walked through Vanity Fair with averted eyes, so does a true believer pass through the world. He is *in it but not of it*. He confesses that he is a stranger and pilgrim on earth. His citizenship is in heaven. Do not show him the glitter of your gold; the brightness of your carnal delights; the illuminated heights of fame; he ever answers, "I cannot see for the glory of that light."

2. *He was blinded to his old views of religion.*

There was never a more remarkable change of opinion and creed than in his case. He preached the faith which once he destroyed. Things which once seemed clear to him as noonday—such as justification by the deeds of the law, the importance of rites and ceremonies, the observance of certain times and seasons—these things he could no longer see. Once he had seen in Jesus only an impostor who had justly been put to a shameful death, and in His people only those who were worthy of bonds and imprisonment. Now he beholds Jesus as the Prince of Glory, and the disciples of Jesus as the honorable of the earth and the heirs of heaven. He is blind now to his old pharisaical notions and ways.

Oh, it is a blessed thing when the light of truth blinds us to error! There are people now embracing false ideas which seem to them wonderfully plain. They see certain things (as they imagine) with the utmost clearness. We cannot convince them that they are wrong. But let this heavenly light shine upon them, and what a transformation will be effected! Their whole

view of things will be different; those things to which they were formerly blind will appear before them, and those things which once seemed so real will have passed entirely away.

3. *He was blinded to his own greatness and goodness.*

Before his conversion he had a capital opinion of himself. He saw himself to be a very admirable character, a most favored and praiseworthy person. "Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the Church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless." But now those things are as though they had never been. "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ." Now he is "less than least of all saints" and the chief of sinners. He cannot see that well-satisfied, boastful, righteous self. The glory of the Divine light has blinded him to his own glory. It is ever thus. How pleased some people are with themselves, how self-complacent! SELF is the greatest and most glorious figure on all their horizon. They do no harm; owe no man anything; are good citizens, good neighbors, and good parents; they are moral, sober, and industrious. They are rich and increased in goods, and have need of nothing. But let this light from above break in golden flood about them, and they will never again be able to see that old perfect self. They will become so blind that in themselves they will see no merits, no righteousness, no goodness at all; but will be heard singing:

"I am all unrighteousness;  
Vile and full of sin I am,  
Thou art full of truth and grace."

4. *He was blinded to his former companions.*

He could not see those with whom he journeyed. "He saw no man," we read. And when his eyes were opened, the first face that greeted his regained vision was that of a follower of Jesus. He had done now with all those inti-