

hearts, they cannot all be without fruit — Let us then thank God and take courage.

"Ye did run well, who hindered you." These convictions and this anxiety may not be all genuine, and the enemy may in some instances get a triumph. Fear may pass away. Impressions may fade, appetites will revive. All this may be, but "Jesus shall see of the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied." The nightly prayer-meetings may cease, crowds may no longer frequent the house of prayer, and the voice of religion may no more be heard in the streets, so that we may see but here and there one brought to Jesus. But we shall shortly see the Captain of our salvation "bringing many sons to glory." If a few months hence scoffers may taunt and say where is now all that glory whereof ye spake? We reply, Welcome! Taunt, ye guilty. Religion holds on in her course; final success is hers. Repentance unto life is a saving grace, and the faith which is of God purifies the heart and overcomes the world. A few weeks of the powerful operations of the Spirit produced great fear on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and they magnified the disciples of Jesus Christ. But thirty years in unbelief had filled up their cup, and wrath came on them to the uttermost. So it is still.

The progress of the kingdom of Christ is as a little child. It is slow but sure. In souls brought into it we see its certain advance; for only in such additions to the church are we to see direct and unfailing results of a spiritual revival. Viewing then all these things we must acknowledge a loud call for believing prayer, for prayer that "judgment may flow down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream," that "the wickedness of the wicked may come to an end," and that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in our land, in the love, and holiness of increasing multitudes of people. His Gospel is preached, His outward blessings flow richly down, His people are roused to labour and pray with renewed earnestness, and why should we not ask in faith according to His commandment and will? Let us not "limit the Holy One of Israel," nor allow any human judgment of

times or seasons to check our prayers. Let us ask for mercy, grace and peace in a glorious outpouring of the Holy Ghost on the whole church, on the people of Israel, and on the whole world. Amen, so let it be.

### THE LOVE THAT SEEKS AND FOLLOWS.

The beautiful aphorism of Tholuck should be treasured in the heart and practised in all our lives: "Not simply preaching, not simply teaching, but the love that seeks and follows."—God not merely sent prophets to instruct and warn and rebuke us; He sent His Son to seek and save the lost,—to follow the straying sheep upon the dark mountains and bring them to the Heavenly fold. He had to seek weeping, and to follow in weariness and much suffering; and He has seen of the travail of His soul and is satisfied. So in their measure must it be with His children. When Christ has sought, and followed, and found us, when our hearts burn with love to Him, we cannot but walk in His footsteps. "I have but one passion, and that is HE AND HE ALONE," was Tholuck's motto from the day that He found Christ; or rather from the day that Christ found him. His own sweet words are:—

"The way in which, since that time, this passion has come more and more to possess my heart I must regard as verily a miracle. Every one who knew nothing of Christ I considered as a fortress which must be won in his name. This feeling came into my heart at the very beginning, before my years of teaching commenced. I was yet in my eighteenth year when the Lord gave me the first youthful soul. It was an artillery officer, and, yet more, a Jew by birth—a wild, ungainly creature, who had roamed about the world without object and without rest; yet, in a short time, he became such a Christian as put me to the blush."

"He adds another instance of the triumph of the "love that seeks and follows":—

"Among those young men (students) some were amiable, but frivolous and giddy. Of this class was the well-known editor of *Kladderadatsch*, my table-companion, commended to my care by a pious Jewish mother. He was giddy and easily led astray, but lovable; and he yielded to the seeking and following love.