

constantly. It is a prayer which must be heard, because it asks for what God has promised to give, and it asks for this through Him whom the Father heareth always. It is this :—

“O God, give me Thy Holy Spirit, for Jesus Christ’s sake. Amen.”

Will you not pray it too? Begin this morning, and go on—not just by saying it, but praying it—till you get a full answer, for you are sure to get it. Here is God’s own promise :—“I will put my Spirit within you ;” and He has promised it over and over again in other places.

Perhaps you will not know at first when the answer comes. Can you see the dew fall? No one ever saw a single drop come down, and yet as soon as the sun rises you see that it has come and is sparkling all over the fields. It came along before you saw it, falling sweetly and silently in the twilight and in the dark. So do not fancy God is not hearing you because you have not felt anything very sudden and wonderful. He is hearing and answering all the time. You would not go on asking unless the dew of His Spirit were already falling upon your heart and teaching you to prayer. The work He gives you of His blessed Spirit the more you will ask for ; and the more you ask the more He will give.

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#### THE LATE DR. PUSEY ON FREE AND OPEN CHURCHES.

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It was on the 6th October, 1865, that Dr. Pusey uttered a few words at a free-and-open church meeting at Norwich at the time of the

Church Congress. These words were listened to by some 2000 people with marvellous interest, and we shall never forget the thrilling effect which they produced on that immense meeting. He said :—“I am so entirely unprepared on the subject that nothing could have induced me to come before you had I not taken the greatest interest in this Society, on the ground that it is pre-eminently a Gospel Society—a Society which maintains the equality of all in the presence of our common Father and God, and which especially insists on the value to the Church of her especial heritage, the poor. I never can see a religious poor man without the deepest reverence for him ; I never see the patience of the religious poor, their self denial, their endurance, without thinking that they are among the most stupendous proofs of the stupendous grace of God ; and I never see a religious poor man without looking at him as one whom I expect to see, by the mercy of God, far above myself in heaven. I said this was especially a Gospel Society, because its objects are the poor, and it requires only one word to ask you how much we are indebted to the poor ?

When I was myself a boy, my lot was cast a good deal in the west-end of London, and I never saw there the face of a poor man. The first that I ever saw was when I went to hear one of the most eloquent preachers of that day, Bishop Heber. I did not see him, but I saw what was far more blessed than that—a poor man standing in the midst of the congregation with the tears streaming from his eyes as he was touched by the Gospel message. That must have been