

and sobs and sighs chase each other through the verses. He stands beside the grave of his soul's queen and piteous lamentations fill the air. What a wonderful vision this man possessed! As his physical eye was the striking feature of his countenance so his soul's eye was the marvel of the inner man. Nothing seemed too deep, too broad or too high to be reached. His perception was both microscopic and telescopic. He brought the smallest things into the clearest light and the most distant to the very door. In all he acknowledges the hand divine. Deity is everywhere and all has relationship to the eternal. Through all his disappointments and afflictions doubt does not master his mind or crush his heart. His intuitions gathered, from nature and the soul's whisperings, the reality of God and man's immortality. No man ever thought great thoughts, saw wonderful pictures and called men to great achievements without having a Deity within him. Many men of power have not accepted the God of Israel, and perhaps not one has followed correctly a system of theology, yet we find that their trust is somewhere, and something has been glorified by them until they called it God. The God of Burns is no deified nature or object, but a personal God, who knows, feels, suffers and loves with a great infinite tenderness. A God who does not sit upon a throne judging the nations of the earth in his righteous anger, but a God who is everywhere present. He lives in the home, walks upon the way, holds the hands of the weak, shields the defenceless, and is the God-Man living among men for their good. This God is known among men through the works of nature and also through revelation. The former show the greatness, the design, the majesty and the glory of the creator, the latter reveals his will and his heart. Burns believed the best way to reveal God was through a human life. Speaking of one of his friends he says:

"In the high heaven above was truest shown,
As by his noblest work the Godhead best is known."

And he also quotes Pope's line, "An honest man is the noblest work of God."