

shall be perfect in love. His grace is sufficient. He never requires an impossible thing. Our own experience as believers accords with God's promises that He will lead us on just as far as we consent to be led. Never has He failed. No man ever sought this blessing with a whole heart who did not find. And those who have sought and found have realized as never before that their souls had found the true shrine. Holiness is the felt want of the believing heart. Good men have ever yearned and struggled for it. Robert McCheyne says: "I am persuaded that I shall obtain the highest amount of present happiness; I shall do most for God's glory and the good of man, and I shall have the fullest reward in eternity by maintaining a conscience always washed in Christ's blood; by being filled with the Holy Spirit at all times, and by attaining the most entire likeness to Christ in mind, will and heart, that it is possible for a redeemed sinner to attain in this world." Brainerd tells us how we should long and strive for it: "I had intense and passionate breathings of soul after holiness, and very clear manifestations of my utter inability to procure or work it in myself; it is wholly owing to the power of God. O, with what tenderness the love and desire of holiness fills the soul! I wanted to wring out myself to God, or rather to get a conformity to Him; but, alas! I cannot add to my stature in grace one cubit. However my soul can never leave off striving for it, or at least groaning that it cannot obtain more purity of heart."

This is the experience which ministers need. James Brainerd Taylor thought so: "Ministers of all others, should be holy men. Christians everywhere—and *no common Christians*—always setting an example for the flock to imitate. O for perfect love, for complete sanctification for the office which awaits us." On a certain Sabbath he listened to a powerful sermon from a minister whom he believed to be holy, and he wrote: "I came away with the conviction that *holiness, holiness*, is the grand secret of effectual preaching."

Alleine shows by his practice, how careful and minute this holiness is: "Never to lie down but in the name of God, not barely for natural refreshment, but that a wearied servant of Christ may be recruited and fitted to serve Him better next day. Never to rise up but with this resolution: well, I will go forth this day in the name of God, and will make religion my business and spend the day for eternity. Never to enter upon