

Ah no! thy love is rightfu! love,
 From all self-seeking free ;
 The change that is such gain to HIM
 Can be no loss to thee!

'Tis sweet to feel our SAVIOUR's love,
 To feel HIS Presence near :
 Yet loyal love HIS Glory holds
 A thousand times more dear.

Ah ! never is our love so pure
 As when refined by pain,
 Or when God's Glory upon earth,
 Finds in our loss its gain!

THE ASCENSION.

Without the Ascension the life-story of our LORD, as we instinctively feel, would have been incomplete. It would not have been, in accordance with the Economy of Redemption, for the Redeemer to remain on earth after the completion of the work of atonement which the FATHER had given HIM to do. Nor could HE be again subjected to the power of death. "CHRIST being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over HIM." What then remained but that HE should ascend up where HE was before? It was just as needful that HE should be glorified in the Ascension as it was needful that HE should be abased in HIS Incarnation. We must bring before our mind's eye the eventful morning, at the end of the Forty Days when JESUS led HIS disciples "out as far as as Bethany." It was probably in the early morning, when their passage through the city would arouse no attention. Just as they had passed over the brook Kedron on the memorable night before HIS Passion, so their path to Olivet led them thither again. They must have gone very near Gethsemane—spot of many memories! and, emerging from the vinyards and olive groves on the slopes, have come out upon the open table-land, solitary and unfrequented, of the mountain. It is quite in accordance with the whole tenor of events during the Forty Days that not one of the wayfarers whom they may have met seems to have noticed or recognized JESUS. We never hear, indeed, of HIS having been seen, during all this time, by any of those profane persons who hated HIM, or by the careless and worldly who cared not for HIM. Since not even HIS own attached followers recognized HIM at first, it is not likely that any chance comer should be able to do so. And what a wonderful walk that must have been! Once before when they were together in the way going up to Jerusalem, and the