

Israel wandered in the wilderness, but they were happy in a prospect of Canaan. Their enemies, who depended on the strength of their high places, set them at defiance; but the Lord said, "They shall be found liars unto thee, and thou shalt tread upon their high places." The true Israel have now the promised land in view, the heavenly Canaan, where their present happiness will be perfected for ever. There "they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

The happiness of God's people is widely different from that which the world offers to its deluded votaries. They eat, and drink, and sleep; they follow fashions and amusements; and they are called happy. But are their hearts at rest? Good men may be found in poverty and in affliction, but they have inward joys which are unknown to the world and pleasing hopes beyond the grave. They are begotten again "unto a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away." The people of God, having tasted the pure pleasures of religion should pity the world that lieth in wickedness. God has done much for them; and they should do what they can for others. Two things should principally occupy their attention: First, to find the way to heaven themselves; and, secondly, to take as many with them as they can. We conclude, in the words of David, "Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God." Dear Brethren, may this happiness be ours while we live, and when we die, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen and Amen.