

"Jesus blood and righteousness," and "chosen that good part which shall not be taken away," may be irretrievably lost. It is thus taught in the following melancholy lines—

"Ah, Lord, with trembling we confess  
A gracious soul may fall from grace."

This is a doctrine not only dishonouring to God, and to His Son in redeeming us, but altogether unwarranted by Scripture. It keeps the soul in continual fear and doubt, and robs it entirely of confidence and peace which ought to fill the heart of every believer, who is assured on the authority of God's word, that there is love and power enough in the Cross of Christ to preserve him from falling, and that the blood-bought souls of His children are too precious to Him to allow Satan thus to triumph. We are His, the purchase of His dying love, and no power can pluck us out of His almighty hand.

This doctrine of falling from grace gave me more pain than any other. When I heard people say they had been serving God for many years, yet could not trust Him; were always in doubt whether they would be in grace or out of grace by the next meeting night, I thought this is no religion for me. I looked into the matter and found that such fears were utterly groundless. I found that although my faith might waver or my confidence be shaken, God's divine purpose towards me could *never* change, and "He would carry me through." Since then I have had joy in religion, and I am perfectly satisfied that no storm can ever shatter the Rock in which I hide. Let me refer to one so-called means of grace, viz., the "class meeting." The tendency of this is infallibly to foster pride, to lead men to trust too much to their feelings, and to look inward upon themselves, instead of outward and upward to Christ, leading them to forget that they

"Dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But only lean on Jesus' name."

I wish to tread softly here. I have no desire to grieve, but the fact that there exists such a widespread repugnance against the class meeting, particularly amongst educated and sensitive minds, is sufficient to warrant these observations. There are thousands (I have spoken with hundreds) who hail with delight any opportunity that will