

HOLINESS.

cases such souls deplore and bewail these roots of bitterness, for in spite of all the sophistical reasonings in the world, an enlightened soul can never feel contented or happy or satisfied while conscious of anything contrary to the will of God.

I often thank God that people's religious instincts are too strong for their beliefs, and batter to pieces their false creeds. People demonstrate this in their letters from all parts of the kingdom. They talk of it to us when we converse with them. They come to us poor Salvation Army people, and I take it as a great compliment—no, I take it as a grand proof that we are on the right track, that these hungering, thirsting sou's, including ministers, and leading friends in churches, after coming to our meetings or reading our books, say, "You have something that we have not." They don't mind about stooping to enquire of such lowly people. They say, "I want to get into this secret. If there is anything I can learn I am willing to sit at the feet of any sweep or tinker in order to learn it." These souls are longing after deliverance, and, in spite of what false theologians or creeds teach them, their intuitions tell them that it *must* be the will of God that they should be delivered from that which is *hatful* to God, and that they should be wholly conformed to His will, therefore they go searching after the light, and, thank God, many find and rejoice in it.

Others try to find rest on the lower level of experience by continually dwelling on those portions of the word of God which depict or recognise it; but I would have you note that there is scarcely a single text in which the experience of a partial sanctification is recognised with which there is not coupled injunctions, commands or exhortations to go on further to realise the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ, such as "Leaving the first principles, let us go on to perfection." "When for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God." Again, "Following after holiness," without which no man shall see the Lord, and "Following on to know the Lord." "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God," and so on. I repeat that, as a rule, where you find the recognition of an infantile and lower stage of experience, you will find coupled with it exhortations, commands and promises to go on to the fuller and more complete experience of sanctification.

Another point for you to bear in mind is, that in this as in everything else, the Bible fits the human soul, and as the word exhorts us to holiness without, the holy Spirit exhorts us to it within; and wherever you find a true child of God, you find him aspiring to this full conformity to the will and mind of Christ, whether his creed endorses it or not.

But, further, I find the second class of passages to which I referred far more numerous, in fact, occupying the main portion of the New Testament. Recognizing and holding up a far higher and more glorious state of experience, such as "Being more than conquerors through