

will not be shaken off. No, he says, I have set out to follow my master, and I am going to cleave to him until I see him go up. Next he comes to Bethel, house of God; will Elisha not stop there? No, he likes his master better than the brightest spot on earth. They come to Jericho, the city with the curse of God upon it—the ground barren and the waters naught, a picture of the world when all is done to improve it, with all its railways and telegraphs and wonderful facilities for transmitting sight and sound,—*the ground is still barren*. Poor sinners' souls ache yet,—there are still widows' tears and orphans' sighs,—the world is still a place needing jails and lunatic asylums. God says, thus far sin has wrought this havoc in this fair scene, and it never will be right until my Son comes back and sets it right. They reach the brink of the Jordan—what! will Elisha dare to cross over? *There* is a man who will go through death itself to follow his master. Elijah's mantle enables them to go through dry-shod; so if we have faith, we can ask anything in heaven or earth, and we will get it. God will say, Ask what you will my child, it is my good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. Shall we ask Him for eternal life, redemption, fitness for heaven? These we have already.—“He hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.” Then we say, We leave it to Thee, Lord. He interprets our desires.—What will we ask for? A double portion of our *Master's Spirit*. We can have that, but never unless we leave Gilgal,—leave Bethel,—leave Jericho,—and go through Jordan,—“reckon ourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” *Then* we can have it,—the Master says. Elisha asks Elijah for a double portion of his spirit; Elijah answers, you have asked a hard thing, but you can have it if you watch me as I go up,—you can have it, if you see me then. In a twinkling he is gone, and now the servant looks after him; and rends his clothes, expressing that his heart misses him. The power of the master comes upon him, his mantle drops down, and he goes back a man marked by the spirit of his master. The spirit of Elijah rests upon him. Have we gone down to Jordan in the death of Christ, and then looked up after Him into heaven; and as His mantle has fallen, the power of His Spirit, have we taken it up,—used it? Let us lay hold of the mantle of our Master now, and go through this evil world so that people will know that His Spirit rests upon us—instead of those who stumble and fall,—of whom they will say, These people have been with Jesus,—they are like Him! God grant it to us!