

God in Christ can we see the harmony of God's revelation, and how the parts of that revelation fit into one another. This will enable us not only to state the leading doctrines of the Gospel, but to sound their depths, to fix their relative positions, and to trace their connection. We require the bold and healthy treatment of Christian doctrine in opposition to that poetic mysticism which veils the great doctrines of revealed religion, and if it does not hide at least confuses what we would like to see set forth with all possible clearness. We need too that tenderness and love which is to be found only in communion with God and Christ through the Holy Spirit. This love will make all our ministry, and especially our sermons, effective. It will save us from the dry unreal generalities, the unmeaning repetition of set phrases, and the wearying attempts at fine writing, which make so many sermons intolerable. It will give a reality to our message, that will carry the well aimed bolt straight to the mark. We need in the Church men of learning, of might, of energy, of practical wisdom, and above all of heavenly faith, men who, not content with knowing of salvation, and witnessing about it, being taught of the Spirit, know it for themselves, know what it is to have their sins washed away in Christ's blood, their hope firm in His righteousness, their condemnation nailed to His cross ; who will speak not cold, heartless, unreal words about religion, but plain, earnest, practical truths. We must speak clearly and really of sin and of salvation, of heaven and of hell, of corruption and of Christ. We would desire to see a richly intellectual, but we must have a profoundly scriptural theology. Practical religion feeds not upon beautiful thoughts, but upon clearly defined certainties. Its truths must come to us not as speculations, or pictures, or views, or opinions, but as facts and doctrines of divine authority. The living Spirit works with these upon the living soul. God who commanded light out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. This will give us the theology which is at once the broadest, the truest and the most noble, combined with a true sympathy with the Christian life, with the heart of Christ, with the mind that was in Christ. Gentlemen, hold fast the old truth in the love of it and in