

Living Preachers.

FULNESS FOREVER.

"In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forever more"—Ps. xvi. 11.



IN last Sabbath evening, brethren, I discoursed to you on the dark and awful subject of hell-torments. On the present occasion I wish, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to direct your thoughts to that celestial country where there shall be no more death, no more sorrow, no more crying, no more pain of any kind.

In my text we have a brief positive description of heavenly bliss. It is indeed a simple but beautiful description of heaven. It requires but a moment's glance at it to discover that it has four main features.

1. The first relates to the source of heavenly bliss. It has a divine origin. "*In thy presence*," that is in the presence of God, "is fulness of joy." While an exile in Patmos, John saw in a vision of heaven the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." Up to that same source we must trace all the blessings we enjoy on earth. But these, at best, are but rills, sometimes only droppings from the fountain of life. When we shall get to heaven we shall drink from the fountain itself. Besides, these precious draughts come to us through a great variety of intervening channels which oftentimes attract our attention till we forget the fountain head. But in heaven all our bliss will come to us directly and immediately from God himself. Nothing will come between us and Him to hinder the fulness and constancy of our fellowship with Him. Oh, blessed thought! In heaven His servants shall see His face.

2. A second character of the heavenly bliss is its plenitude. "*In thy presence is fulness of joy*." On earth our joys are only partial. There is always something wrong, something wanting, or something superfluous. There is always some fly to spoil the savor of the precious ointment. At one time we have not enough of the good our hearts so ardently crave. At another we have so much that it ceases, in our estimation, to be a good. Is it the weather? It is too hot or too cold; too dry or too rainy. Is it wealth? We have not enough, or we have so much that it has become a burden of care to us. Is it our friends? They neglect us; they don't come to see us so often as they ought; or they are so lavish in their attentions that they embarrass us, so that we wish they were