

thoughts of God. But thus it is that the call and the deliverance make us strangers even in the very land of promise, until the execution of judgment be come.

We read in Heb. xi. 8: "By faith, Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, *not knowing whither he went.*" There is that which characterises this faith. "By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country; for he looked for the city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." In drawing him by the path of faith and renunciation in the land of promise, God gives him nothing; but He sets him on a position elevated enough to see the city which hath foundations.

God draws us also into the wilderness; and, when we are there, He gives us nothing, and, if we ask for anything, He answers: "It is not *good* enough." The disciples would have liked to remain and for Jesus to remain; but Jesus tells them, It is good enough for your heart, but not enough for Mine; I would not that you should remain where ye are; but where I am, there ye shall be also. He desires a complete felicity for His own. He tells them, before leaving them, "I go to prepare a place for you." For where I am, I desire that there ye may be also.

When we are come out of this world and of that which keeps back our heart, then He can re-