

of it." On the other hand, if the Sabbath produce its proper effects upon our souls, and we find ourselves at each return of the sacred season, making fresh advances in our Christian duty, we then receive as it were some foretaste of the joys of heaven. We begin to experience with the patriarchs of old, that we are "strangers and pilgrims on the earth," and that here we have "no continuing city." And therefore we long for that heavenly country, where there shall be an eternal rest—where the Sabbath of the Lord shall be perfect—freed from the corruptions of this world—and dedicated entirely to his honour and glory. Here, there is much alloy in the delights of the Sabbath. Christians whose faith is the strongest, cannot always overcome the infirmities of their nature; and they have, not unfrequently, to lament those distractions, and those weaknesses, which prevent their receiving that benefit from the day which they would desire. But in heaven, there are no interruptions to the enjoyment of that pure and blessed Sabbath which there exists. The love of God is unbounded there, and the admiration of his wonderful attributes, furnishes a continual and untiring theme for the praises of his saints. Here, our spirits soon languish in celebrating the praises of Jehovah; but there, we can experience no higher satisfaction than in the exercise of this duty. New sources of wonder and admiration constantly open to our view, and excite our tongues to glorify his holy Name. Brethren, has the observance of an earthly Sabbath, ever induced you to desire the heavenly? If it has, and you now neglect that holy season, reflect I pray you, upon what has been said. Resolve without delay to amend your conduct. Remember the words of the Holy Ghost—"To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts," and fear lest the Almighty swear in his wrath, that you shall never enter into his rest. May the Lord avert this evil—may you attend to the heavenly call—and finally, be accepted through the merits of the blessed Jesus, who died for your sins. God grant this, for the sake of the same Jesus, to whom with the Father and the Holy Ghost be ascribed all praise, power, and adoration, now and for ever. AMEN.