

more than mere plenty, and gives us the idea of excess, redundancy, superfluity. Plenty denotes a sufficiency, but an abundance denotes an exuberance, a bursting forth on every side. These words are often used by the apostles as expressive of their joys, honours and labours. They are also used as expressive of the Christian's triumphant entrance into glory, and in this sense the idea is exceedingly beautiful. Hence says Peter, "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."—2 Peter i. 11. The word "abundant" is derived from the word "abundans"—to overflow, to abound—and signifies, wave upon wave. Let me illustrate its meaning. Yonder is a vessel upon the lake, making for the port. Scarcely a breath of air is moving; there is a perfect calm. By tacking about the vessel manages to get into the harbour; it just enters, and that is all. By and by a breeze springs up and another vessel appears in sight. Its sails are spread, and gallantly it flies before the wind. The billows roll around it, the white caps dash behind, while wave after wave speeds it on its course and sends it sweeping through the entrance of the harbour as far in as it can go. Both vessels have entered; but while one has simply had an entrance, the other has had "an abundant entrance."

Many professing Christianity will get to heaven; we don't doubt it for one moment; but, oh! how varied will be their entrance; for while many will barely have an entrance, others will have an abundant entrance, and go "sweeping through the gates." All depends upon our present course of action. Holy living and holy doing will prepare the way, and secure for us the "abundant entrance" by and by. If such an entrance may be ours, and if all our future glory depends upon our present action, how foolish we are not to put forth every effort to secure the greater glory then.

Dear reader, are you living and aiming for "an abundant entrance?" or are you going quietly along, unmindful of your entrance into glory, so long as you do but enter there! Oh, how often we hear professing Christians say, "I hope to see the end of a Christian life, and shall be satisfied if I do but just get into heaven." No, no, we should not rest satisfied with the hope or prospect of a mere entrance; nothing short of "an abundant entrance" should satisfy the desire of the child of God. Praise God! such an entrance may be ours. The poorest, weakest, dullest among us may, if he or