

make thoughtful men learn wisdom.—Through them the great Wisdom speaks loudly to the sons of men, and says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." God is giving us something to impress us and to arouse us from vain dreams of security and false ideas of permanency.

Rash mortals argue and imagine that "all things shall continue as they were" but heaven shatters their delusions by "shaking terribly the earth." Bold scoffers ask, "Where is the promise of His coming?" The dread earthquake replies, and through it the Almighty warns, "Lo, I come quickly!" God speaks, let man attend. These great and universal earthquakes, certainly unprecedented in their number, are but the footfall, the fore-runners of the coming Lord. They are the antecedent heralds of His near approach; the precursors of His nearing glory; the monitors which forewarn. "The night is far spent, the day is at hand."—W. PRESTON.—*Quiver, London.*

DIVINE LOVE.

The Lord Jesus Christ in order to fit us for heavenly association with Himself in glory, had to vindicate the claims of God's righteousness against sin and the evil that Satan had brought in. He had to be made sin, He who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. And taking this place of sin, He had to meet and suffer all God's righteous wrath against sin, even when He was most obedient in doing the will of God—and, still more, had to go through in submission, Satan's power and his hour of darkness before He could in victory bring us with Himself as brethren to

His Father's house, where we learn all the depths and heights of the Son's and the Father's love; and learn too what an eternal harvest of glory and delight God has reaped from this Son, who became man in the very scene of sin and blight where Satan had for a moment seemed to triumph, but where God found in Jesus, the Lord from heaven, a sweet savour and fragrance that will be precious incense to His heart for ever.

We know, when this blessed One came from heaven with the truth and goodness of God for man, how He was despised and rejected. Not a house in Bethlehem open to Him. This was man's reception of God! How different God's reception of man—of a sinner! "As many as received Him!"—Even the thief was to be with Him that day in Paradise. Those who through grace have let the Saviour into their hearts are made sons, and left for a while here in that relationship to walk as vessels having in them this eternal life, to shine before men, as sons walking in the obedience of Christ before God, and Christ so dwelling in their hearts that the fruit will be love, not in word but in deed, and in truth.—"He that loveth not knoweth not God." "As the Father hath loved Me, so have I loved you: continue ye in My love."—J. N. D.

Faith in the value of the soul, and in its eternal ruin out of Christ, and in the lost condition of a world lying in wickedness, will give a man power in prayer.

Christ dwelling in our hearts by faith is enjoyed by him in whom He dwells, not by him who can explain it, though it be true that it must be enjoyed in order to be able to explain it.