

will with him also freely give us every other blessing." It is by taking Christ as our own that we get all the other gifts. My dear friends, Christ is the gift of God to you, to each of you. The Bible tells you that Christ is the gift of God to you. This truth is just as true now as it ever will be; don't think that your faith can make it true, or that your unbelief can ever make it false. Don't think that your conversion, your sanctification of character, or any thing in you, or about you, or done by you, or any change whatever in your views or feelings or life for the worse or for the better can ever make this great truth truer than it is, or turn it into a falsehood. No, Christ is yours by deed of gift. You can never change this gracious and glorious, and glowing truth; but O if you believe it, if you receive it into your mind, if you believe it, it will change you; and you will be constrained to cry out from the bottom of your heart, thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift. O remember, that the Father of lights loves you with unspeakable love, and this unspeakable gift is the expression of his unspeakable love to you.

*Another gift which the Father of lights has given is the Holy Spirit.* This divine agent has been sent by the Father and the Son to convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He too is as truly a Divine gift—an unspeakable gift as Christ himself. He came down from heaven in all the fulness of his converting and sanctifying power after our blessed Redeemer ascended to his native home in heaven. His promise to the disciples before he left them was: "I will pray the Father and he will give you another comforter that he may abide with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth." This divine agent not only dwells in every believer's heart; it is his office in the economy of grace to dispose sinners to turn their attention to, and receive, or believe, the glorious gospel of the grace of God. The holy Ghost has thus been given for the benefit of the rebellious, that the Lord God might dwell among us, and if we receive into our hearts the truths of the Gospel, that Divine agent will take up his abode within us, and make our hearts his temple. We should also remember that God gives the Holy Spirit more abundantly in answer to earnest believing prayer.

This is evident from many portions of Scripture. For example our Lord says: "If ye then being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him." (Luke ii. 13.)