

was their deliverance out of the land of Egypt, and out of the house of bondage; in allusion to which, it is said, "O! people, saved by the Lord!" And all the people of God are now happy in a salvation from the guilt and tyranny of sin. They were in captivity and bondage, but Jesus has proclaimed liberty to the captives, and they are now free from the law of sin and death. "Happy is that people that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people whose God is the Lord." And all the people of God are in this case, having received the spirit of adoption, whereby they cry, Abba Father. The children of Israel were happy in the desert of Arabia, in a rich supply of all their real wants. The Lord "had rained down manna upon them to eat," and had given them of the corn of heaven. Man did eat angel's food: "he sent them meat to the full." And are not the people of God now happy in a competent supply of all their wants? They have sufficient food and raiment. They have the bread of life. And it is said by a holy Apostle, "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory, by Jesus Christ." What more can they desire? They want not the luxuries of life, but having food and raiment, they are therewith content. Israel was happy in the protection of Almighty God. He was the shield of their help, and underneath were the everlasting arms to bear them up. They had many enemies, but "the God of Jerusalem rode upon the heaven in their help, and in his excellency on the sky." And is he not now the defence of his people? Is his arm shortened that it cannot save? He still loves his people; watches over them for good, and guards them safely on every side. The special presence of God, and his holy worship, were sources of happiness to Israel. They saw him in the cloud and in the pillar of fire; His glory rested on the tabernacle, and they enjoyed high felicity in humble and devout approaches to his Divine Majesty. Religious adoration in the temples of the Lord, is now a source of happiness to the people of God. When they approach his presence, where his name is recorded they can adopt the language of pious David: "A day in thy courts is better than a thousand."