

the "people of God." It is shown us under the figure of a stranger, because on the footing of the law there was no claim to the promises, and that it is the new principles of grace and faith that places them in connection with Jehovah. On this latter footing God acknowledges them as His people and gives them a higher place of supreme honour, associating them with the glory of David and of the Messiah. Out of barren ground issues a refreshing spring which only waits the moment when all human hope is lost, to show itself. This fountain becomes a running stream, a large deep river, the river of divine grace, which carries Israel along to the ocean of Messianic and millennial blessings!

(To be continued, D.V.)



EXTRACT.—The confidence of faith is to be manifested in the Christian life as a whole. Christians are often brought to a stand, through measuring their own strength with temptation, instead of exclusive reference to God. They go on well up to a certain point. One talks of his family, another of the future; in the various concerns of life our reasonings mean but this: "I have not the faith that counts on God." Faith has reference entirely and exclusively to God. Duty often leads into difficulty; but I have the consolation of saying, "God is there, and victory certain;" otherwise, in my apprehension, there is something stronger than God. This demands a perfect practical submission of the will.