

to their realization. David sought with the best motives to build a house for God instead of the tabernacle. God blocked his way, but opened up to him in the promises made an infinitely greater vista filled with more glowing visions of a kingdom's glory. To build a temple for God would have been a great privilege and honor, but to become the great head of a house in which the greater "Son of David" was to appear was an infinitely larger honor and mark of God's favor. Our prayers are not always answered in the way and at the time we ask. God's ways are not our ways always. He sees the end from the beginning, and with the Divine conceptions of life knows how to bestow the best things. In our own experiences we shall realise that however our desires seem to be unnoticed, they are not so in reality. "Think not you the father hath not heard your prayer. You shall have your desire *some time, somewhere.*"

ADDED POINTS.

1. David's anxiety to perfect religious reforms was good. Let us not be weary in well doing.

2. But we are not to anticipate God's leading and go before his plans.

3. David's promotion from the sheep fold to the throne was a warrant of God's presence. The past is a guarantee of the future in this way.

4. The servants of God win eternal fame. "I have made thee a great name."

5. Even righteous wars may become a barrier to participants in them being made workers in the temple of the Lord. David had shed "much blood."

6. The work will go on though the workers fall. David's successors would carry it forward.

7. It is a mark of true righteousness to accept the fact that we cannot see the victory soon and at the same time cheer with one last word our surviving comrades to win it.

8. Victories are won by the occupants of unnamed graves as much as by the surviving hero whom the nation decorates.

THE BLACKBOARD.

GOD'S PROMISES

TO

DAVID.

GREAT NAME.

TEMPORAL KINGDOM.

DIVINE . . .

HIS FOLLOWERS.

GREAT HONOR.

SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.

PRESENCE.
PROTECTION.
PEACE.

WEIGHTS AND WINGS.—A Christian physician, whose career had been full of faith and noble ministry, gives this experience: He was a poor boy, and a cripple. One day he was watching some other boys on the ball field. They were active, strong and wealthy. As he looked on, his heart grew bitter with envy. A young man who stood beside him noted the discontent on his face, and said to him: "You wish you were in those boys' place, don't you?" "Yes, I do," was the answer. "I reckon God gave them money, education and health," continued the young man, "to help them to be of some account in the world. Did it never strike you that he gave you your lame leg for the same reason—to make a man of you?" The boy gave no answer, and turned away; but he did not forget the words. They stayed in his heart until they kindled hope and courage there, helping him to rise above his deformity. He soon learned that what was true of his lame leg was true also of all the difficulties, hindrances and hard conditions of his life—they were all God's gifts to him to help him to be of some account in the world—to make a man of him.—*S. S. Times.*