

know by the sure testimony of God. Men's testimony might deceive us and fail: God's cannot.—*We know.*

It is often said, of such a man, he has an intellectual mind; or a Scientific mind; or, a philosophical, a poetical, or a legal mind; or he has a money-making mind; but never, a prophetic mind. There's a good deal made in these days, of mind, and it's a very poor thing to make anything of. Scientists have not prophetic minds. Some of them haven't much mind of any sort. None of them can tell you what is going to take place half an hour hence. And yet the humblest Christian in this place to-day can say without conceit, "I KNOW that if this poor tabernacle were taken down, I have a building of God, an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens." Don't imagine my friends, that it is a sign of humility to say, "I hope." Some of you are parents, and if you were to say to your child "I was at Niagara, and there's a beautiful pavilion there, and lovely grounds;" and the child should say, "I hope so, mama, but I haven't seen it,—I can't be sure." You would say, "what business have you "hoping" when I say it is so." If you were a respectful child you would say, "I know it because Mama says so." God says, "You have an eternal house." Why don't you say, "I know it." Don't turn around and say, "I don't know whether you are telling the truth or not." Oh blessed be God for this knowledge, and if you haven't got before into this state, say now "I know God is telling the truth." Our worthiness or unworthiness has nothing to do with it. That is a question that could be settled in five minutes by sending us all to hell. But I know it, because God says it.

"If our earthly house of this tabernacle, (or tent.)" The strongest man's life is just like a tent. I was in Kansas a few weeks ago, and a great number of us were in tents there. A storm came up, and the tents went down. The strongest man in the United States cannot venture to say that he will be alive in a week from now. So the body is a mere tabernacle of the soul.

2nd verse. "For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven." That is, the groaning is the utterance of earnest desire. It is said in another place, Romans 8: 23, "We who have the first-fruits of the Spirit groan within ourselves." It's bound to be so. The whole creation is groaning with the tremendous curse of sin, and the trail of the serpent is over it all. And these fierce cyclones and rattling earthquakes are the protests of nature against the antagonism and ruin of sin. It will be so till Jesus comes. Even we ourselves groan within ourselves. Many of us know what that means. The Holy Ghost makes intercession for us with groanings that cannot be uttered. Don't mind about your eloquent prayers if you can groan. There is many a poor sick woman this morning worn out with pain, cannot put two words together in

(under)