

and covetousness,—with the design to promote the *permanent* interests of those engaged in it, and the general good ; when the families of the earth shall be the abodes of piety, and comfort, and love ;—a period when “ the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea,” and “ the people shall be all righteous,” and “ all the ends of the world shall see ” and rejoice in “ the salvation of our God.” Mighty, indeed, must be the revolution that shall accomplish all this. But let not the benevolent heart despond. “ The mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it :” and “ that which he hath spoken, he will also bring to pass ; that which he hath purposed, he will also do.”

How will he accomplish the glorious result ?

The efficient agency will be that of the Holy Spirit, whose office it is to give to men the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, and make them willing in the day of his power. “ Not by might, nor by power, but *by my Spirit*, saith the Lord of hosts.” “ And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, that *I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh* ;” and then “ that great and notable day of the Lord ” shall “ come.”

But God usually works by means. He has uniformly, hitherto, dispensed spiritual blessings to men by the instrumentality of their fellow-men ; and this gracious method of procedure, there is no reason to expect, will be discontinued. We are expressly assured it will be employed in effecting the glorious result predicted in our text. “ The law ” is to “ go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” The change foretold in the character and condition of the nations, is to be effected by means of “ the law,” and “ the word of the Lord.” And these are to “ go forth of Zion,” and “ from Jerusalem :” the means which it has been determined to employ, are to be put and continued in operation, by those already blessed with the knowledge and the happy influences of the true religion.