

that this is far fetched, although agreeable to Jewish notions, and even consonant to several expressions in the Old Testament Scriptures, is only just. There is no such out and out promise in the Scriptures. Indeed it runs counter to gospel teaching, for it is affirmed, that we are to do good to others, expecting nothing again, "They shall obtain mercy." We fearlessly throw down the gauntlet, and declare, that the man, who shows mercy to himself, will receive a result, the fulfilment of the Almighty's announcement made known in all time, this is my memorial throughout all generations, the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth. He waiteth to be gracious. Upon whom does He wait. Not upon himself, but upon the sinner. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. He waiteth to be gracious. "Let," he says, "the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." Will we be pardoned for offering the condition of salvation, that when men turn to the Lord, He will abundantly pardon. No experience of humanity has ever been, that on the return of the sinner, God has forgotten to be gracious. His mercy flows as a loving result to the repentant and returning sinner. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."

The truly scriptural doctrine, that a man is being saved, through all the years of his earthly pilgrimage, receives striking verification from a just consideration of the beatitudes. When any man has had mercy on himself, he of necessity becomes pure in heart. The two things, states, or conditions, go hand in hand. The one, indeed, is a necessary consequence of the other. It flows as a corollary that purity of heart arises from the exercise of mercy or pity on ourselves, morality and piety are nearly allied. He that doeth righteousness is righteous: Even as He is righteous. He that doeth the will shall know of the doctrine. *Origin says* "God has no body, and therefore is in-

visible; but men of contemplation can discern Him with the heart and understanding. But a defiled heart cannot see God; but he must be pure, who wishes to enjoy a proper view of a pure being." "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" "The pure in heart shall see God." Christ here teaches the absolute necessity of a purification of heart and life, from all vile affections and desires before we can enter the Kingdom of Heaven, or the Gospel dispensation. The expression, Kingdom of Heaven, has been productive of much abuse, and much controversy. Among ill-instructed people it has often taken the place of the Gospel of the Blessed God. A something, not the Gospel has been put in its place. Longing desires after an entry upon the unseen state of existence ought never to take the place of the spiritual manifestation of the christian character. "The Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace, and joy, in the Holy Ghost." In the Master's teaching, the expression meant the spiritual state, which he was to set up in the hearts of the believer in Him. The manifestation in heart and life, of these characteristics of the christian character. His "come unto me and I will give you rest," involved a complete removal of the world's unrest. No one, but Himself, can remove it,—no means but His, can effect a radical cure. If men are to become the light of the world, that the Father may be glorified, they must shine as Christ inculcates. Any earthly light would only serve to diminish the heavenly vision. God, Christ, and Eternity, are only to be seen through the purity the Gospel imparts. Can any man see the invisible? Yes. The Heavens declare His glory, and the earth sheweth His handiwork, day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night proclaimeth knowledge of Him. His eternal power and Godhead may be seen by the things which He hath created and made. Man can hear the inaudible.

"The spacious firmament on high
With all the blue ethereal sky,
And spangled heav'ns, and shining frame,
Their great original proclaim.

What though in solemn silence all
Move round the dark terrestrial ball?