

SERMON.

"Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him."—Heb. vii. 25.

In these words it is said of Jesus Christ that He has power or ability. "He is able to save." This ability is very great. Let us glance at a few instances where we see it manifested that, thereby, we may understand something of its greatness.

See it (1) in His multiplying a few loaves to feed many thousand people. Before we can eat, we must, in the ordinary course of things, prepare the ground, gather the harvest, beat out and winnow the grain, grind it in the mill, and bake it with fire. And were we called upon to prepare a meal for even one thousand people, what labour and toil that would cause, what weariness would attend it! But he simply blessed the few loaves and the few fishes, and gave to the vast multitude and they did all eat and were filled. What power is here!

See it (2) in His stilling the tempest and the waves. You have been, perhaps, at sea in a storm. Suddenly the tempest breaks upon the ship, the strong sails have burst into ribbons, the great ropes have snapped like a thread, the huge masts,—giant trees of the forest which grew strong in the breeze,—have broken like reeds, and the poor sea-faring men are full of terror and can do nothing, can, indeed, scarcely maintain their feet on the reeling vessel, and each one waits for and expects nothing but the foundering of the ship. But in such a storm as that Jesus comes forth, and He says, "Peace be still," and immediately there is a great calm. What power is here!

See it (3) in His raising the dead. While your beloved was sick, and while there was yet a little strength you tried every means to keep in the flickering lamp of life, by appliances of medicine, by attention, and watching, and care; but the lamp grew dimmer and dimmer, and flickered and flickered, and then went out. And now—you stay no longer, you can do no more; and your beloved is carried forth for burial and laid in the grave, already so full of the dead. So it was with Lazarus; but then comes Jesus and approaches the grave; the stone is rolled away; and He says Lazarus come forth," and the dead man comes forth in his grave clothes. And in like manner at the last day, He shall call on the dead and they shall come forth. Every grave shall give up its dead; and the sea shall give up its dead, and they shall all, small and great, appear before God. What power again is here!

See it (4) in his creating light. You are in a dark cave or deep mine, or buried, we shall say below the earth, in cold and darkness. You are perishing for want of light and heat, and you have none of those helps of art by which light can be produced, and you grope about in darkness, in terror, in despair. But this Jesus speaks: He says, "Let there be light," and lo! light breaks forth