

the blessings which come from constant prayer infinitely more than He did!

Pray therefore in the morning that God may strengthen you for the toil and the trials of the day. Pray in the evening that His hand may protect you when sleep the twin-brother of death holds you in its grasp. Let thanksgiving and praise well evermore like a gushing fountain from your purified and chastened heart. What so beautiful in the Universe as to see the children of men lifting up their hearts to the everlasting FATHER with childlike love and trust and receiving in return His precious benediction! By his grace our prayers can bind and loose his hands. As Jesus could do no miracles in certain places because of the people's unbelief,—so God could not destroy Israel in the wilderness because of the might of Moses's faith and the urgency of his prayers.

Pray for your family. As you wish to meet them all in Heaven, as you hope to find them all on Christ's right hand, pray for them—always! Faint not, though years pass without any apparent answer to your prayer. The prize you seek is of vast value—well worth the agony of a lifetime: God will not fail to fulfill his promise.

Pray for your church. Your money, your countenance, your time are all valuable. Do not refuse them to the Master's cause; but above all *pray* for that cause. Pray for your minister. His hands need to be upheld constantly; his heart needs to be cheered both by human kindness and God's love.—Pray that neither of these may be withheld from him. Pray for the congregation that it may flourish in the enjoyment of that peace of God which passeth all understanding: that office-bearers and members may be faithful to their vows and fight bravely the battle of the Lord. Pray for the Sabbath School—teachers and children; for the Prayer Meeting; for those who neglect the Sabbath School, the Prayer Meeting and the ordinances of God's House.

Pray for our Schools and for our College; for the Professors and Students. Especially is it needful now to ask our Lord and Master to put it into the hearts of parents to consecrate their sons to the work of the ministry; to put it into the hearts of devout,

pious, zealous and talented young men to give themselves up to the Church and the Church's Head; Pray that a way may be opened for young men who are poor in this world's goods but rich in faith for securing the necessary training for the work of the ministry. Pray for the success of our Home and Foreign Missions. Pray for our Church courts—Presbyteries and Synods: especially for the Synod shortly to meet in Halifax.

O how inexhaustible the themes for prayer! Our own souls—the souls of all others; our own earth-life; the concerns of Christ's Kingdom; the glory of God, and everything connected with it, furnish constant occasion for confession, petition, adoration, thanksgiving! Verily, verily men ought always to pray!

"BEGINNING AT JERUSALEM."

Such is the Saviour's commission. His disciples must tell the good news of salvation to all the world; but they must begin at Jerusalem, in the heart of their own country, among kindred and acquaintances. So must it be with us. Our commission includes the whole world; we cannot go too far away. Wherever there is darkness to be dispelled and ignorance to be enlightened; wherever there are tears to be dried and broken hearts to be bound up; wherever men sit in sorrow under the shadow of death, there the Gospel-messenger is authorized, commanded to tell the tidings of redeeming love. But we must begin at home. Home must never be neglected. Its claims are first in order to us. Home is our *Jerusalem*, which the Saviour commends to our special care.

Christian reader, your Jerusalem is primarily your own family. Take heed that Christ be not as a stranger in your household, or as a wayfaring man that turneth aside to tarry for a night. Take heed that your children be all *His* children, and that your influence, your word and deed be ever on His side. Having paid due attention to your own family look to the interests of your friends and neighbours. The village, the town, the section of country in which you live is your "*Jerusalem*." There Christ bids you to begin.