

have the photo of a very dear friend—I generally when away from home have with me a photograph of my wife and children. It is very nice to have when far away from home, but the photograph is a poor substitute for the wife and children. It is all very well in its way, it is a good reminder, but you cannot live on the photograph, you cannot satisfy your heart with it. So you may have a beautiful doctrinal belief about God, but that will not satisfy your soul. You must have the consciousness of the presence of a living, loving Person. “Thirsteth for thee”—it is for God Himself and not for His gifts. David at this time was probably away from his capital, away from his throne on account of Absalom’s rebellion, and he might have said, “Lord, restore to me my throne—grant me Thy protection,” or something of that kind. How often we come to God for gifts, we want to get something from Him, and God graciously answers us too; but this is something far higher than that. Have you ever been away from home, father or mother, and when your children met you on your return the first words they said were “What did you bring me?” It is rather disappointing. We like to have our children think we are more than a’l the gifts we could bring them. I think it must be so with our God. He does not desire you to be always thinking of getting something from Him, to be always expecting something of special advantage to yourself, but that you should seek for a sense of the presence of God Himself, His love filling your heart.

Psalm 13, verse 5, “My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness.” We have here the third attitude, the satisfied soul. If someone could be found who could satisfy the hearts of all the people in the world, it would be the greatest of all human discoveries. The man who could satisfy the rich man with wealth, the pleasure-seeker with pleasure, would require some panacea that has never yet been discovered. He has it all. This expression would be justifiably rendered, “My soul is satisfied,” because the verb might be used in the present. How does God satisfy? Abundantly, “With marrow and fatness.” This was the best part of the peace-offering: He satisfies abundantly in Christ Jesus. The apostle says, “All things are yours, and ye are Christ’s and Christ is God’s.” Do you remember what Christ said about the elder son, when he came to his father and said, “You never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends.” The reply of the father was “Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.” That is the marrow and fatness. Oh that we may receive that fatness during these days of waiting upon God.