

2. What is meant by delight in God's law. The Hebrew and Septuagint both render it, his will is in the law of the Lord; and that which is voluntary is delightful; a gracious heart serves God from a principle of ingeniousness; he makes God's law not only his task, but his recreation; upon this scripture-stock I shall graft this proposition.

Doctrine. That a child of God, though he cannot serve the Lord perfectly, yet he serves him willingly; his will is in the law of the Lord; he is not a pressed soldier, but a volunteer; by the beating of this pulse we may judge whether there be spiritual life in us, or no. David professes that God's law was his delight, Psal. cxix. 77. He had his crown to delight in, he had his music to cheer him, but the love he had to God's law did drown all other delights; as the joy of harvest and vintage exceeds the joy of gleanings. "I delight in the law of God," saith St. Paul, "in the inner man," Rom. vii. 22. The Greek word is, I take pleasure; the law of God is my recreation, and it was a heart delight, it was in the inner man; a wicked man may have joy in the face, 2 Cor. v. 12. like honey-dew, that wets the leaf; but the wine of God's Spirit cheers the heart; Paul delighted in the law, in the inner man.

CH. III.—*Whence the Saint's Spiritual Delight springeth.*

The saint's delight in the law of God proceeds, 1. From soundness of judgment. The mind apprehends a beauty in God's law; now the judgment draws the affections, like so many orbs, after it; "the law of God is perfect." Psal. xix. 7. it needs not be eked out with traditions. The Hebrew word for perfect, seems to allude to a perfect, entire body, that wants none of the members or lineaments; God's law must needs be perfect, for it is able to make us wise to salvation, 2 Tim. iii. 15. The Septuagint renders it, the law of God is pure, like beauty that hath no stain, or wine that is clarified and refined. The soul that looks into this law, seeing so much lustre and perfection, cannot but delight in it; the middle lamp of the sanctuary being lighted from the fire of the altar, gave light to all the other lamps: so the judgment being lighted from the word, it sets on fire the lamps of the affections.