

properties of oil, "I will make a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined." This is truly a delicious feast, but, if we have not got an appetite for this heavenly feast, then we can have no delight in this glorious provision which the Lord has made for his people. But when the dear Lord says, "Awake, O North wind, and come thou South—blow upon my garden that the spices thereof may flow out, let my beloved come into his garden and eat his pleasant fruit." It is in this way the Lord forms his people and gives them new desires and spiritual appetites, then the blessings of eternal life becomes sweet to our taste, when this heavenly wind blows upon the dry bones of the spiritual Israel. And now we can say that we were born not of blood, for from it we inherit corruption, nor of the will of the flesh, for the works of the flesh are only sin; nor of the will of man for the carnal mind is enmity to every thing that is spiritual, "but of God." Thus we are saved by grace alone independent to creature efforts, and were it not for the work of grace which the Lord begins in the souls of his people, whom He has loved with an everlasting love, and carries it on in the soul, we never would be saved.

Grace all the work shall crown
 Through everlasting days,
 It lays in heaven the topmost stone,
 And well deserves the same.

Ah but for free and sovereign grace,
 I still had lived estranged from God,
 Till Hell had proved the destined place
 Of my deserved but dread abode.

But O, amazed I see the hand
 That stopp'd me in my wild career,
 A miracle of grace I stand,
 The Lord has taught my heart for prayer.

JOHN R. THOMAS.