

When the light of God shines in the heart of man, softening it into sympathy with all distress, purifying it into the love of holiness, and the fear of sin, and leading it in the pathway of perfect peace, then has that soul become the possessor of eternal life, it is an inhabitant of the kingdom of heaven.

As our Heavenly Father has designed that every rational creature should know and enjoy Him and be happy, so the workings of His spirit in us will permit us to have no true peace while we are in a state of alienation from him. This is illustrated in the testimony of Jesus, who, when he was about to go away from his disciples, explained to them that though he went, he did not leave them alone, for the same spirit of truth, upon whom he depended for strength and wisdom, should abide with them always, leading them into all truth; that this same spirit should teach them all things, and enable them to remember his words and teachings, that nothing might be forgotten that would help them on in their heavenward journey. And as for them, so for us; we too have the promise of this spirit. Christ's work in us and for us, as for them, is to lead us into all truth; to help us to seek and to find it; to discern between it and falsehood; between the mere doctrines of men and the revelations of divine good to our own souls. I feel a renewed concern to direct the attention of all who are present to this principle of divine life and light in the soul as to a most excellent teacher, who teacheth as never man taught, and who can never be removed into a corner, desiring that each one of us may come to experience a true waiting upon him, in the grace and ability received from him, ceasing from our own thoughts and words in regard to these things, and feeling after this inward seed of divine life, that, being actuated by its power and influence, we may be found working out our own salvation by a continued obedience and resignation to the will of him with whom we have to do.

It is called the seed of divine life

and truly it is so. Jesus likened the kingdom of heaven to a grain of mustard seed, which, though one of the smallest of seeds, becomes the greatest among herbs, to a little leaven that at woman took and hid in three measures of meal until the whole was leavened, showing if we will do our part this holy divine seed, this leaven of the heavenly kingdom, operative in its nature, and powerful in its effects, is able to bring even the whole manhood into its own likeness.

"Except a man is born of the spirit he cannot see the kingdom of God." Except the soul lays hold of and appropriates the gift of the divine indwelling it cannot grow into the stature of Christian perfection. The coming of Christ in the outward did not make the sin and sorrow and suffering of the world to vanish. But Christ's work will still be carried on by those in whom he lives, when each in their own sphere labors by active work, or patient example, to leave the world better than they found it; when they thus become laborers together with God, making the work of the Christian not really different from the work of Jesus Christ. By his precepts and example he manifested the life of God that dwelt in him, and finished the work that was given him to do. Every one of us have *our* mission, and it is to manifest God, and we may be encouraged when we remember that God, the all good, shines out in every good word that is spoken, and in every good work that is done.

Every true believer in Christ is required to live a holy, self-denying life, relying for guidance upon the spirit of truth, looking for comfort and edification in the Scriptures, endeavoring to follow the example of him who was meek and lowly of heart, and come into the possession of the religion he taught, which consists not in forms and ceremonies, creeds and confessions of faith, but in a diligent attention and obedience to the Divine law and light. For the beginnings of all true religion, and in some sense the root and ground