

Introduction

their fulness of strength and perfection. But here also the vision of duty is equally clear and perfect. The genuineness of the faith and love which brought forth no fruit except that of inward satisfaction might very well be called in question. And the test of inward experience is to be found not solely in ability to endure sore afflictions and, like Job, possess our souls in patient faith. There must be, along with these, the call to duty. "Go sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor and thou shalt have treasure in heaven, and come follow me."

High, clear, perfect conceptions of duty, a true spiritual understanding, as far from fanatical narrowness as from latitudinarian license, or worldly complaisance, is one of the most important elements of Christian perfection. And parallel with that view of duty is the moral strength, the courage and self-denial which takes up the consecrated Cross. The vision of the holy becomes the searchlight of condemnation to the soul which cannot respond, Here am I, Lord, send me.

To this moral side of our religious nature the little book before us makes a strong appeal. It has its message of strength to the weak, of rest to the weary, of comfort to the sorrowing, of faith and hope and peace to all; but it has,