

*Blessed are they that wait upon him.*

O! God how great and overwhelming are the blessings which accompany the immortal state of Regeneration. How! inexpressibly great, is the gladness arising from a sense of being delivered from death and utter condemnation by the omnipotent arm of the Eternal.

What unbounded satisfaction there is in this life, in knowing that we are fulfilling the Divine Will; in being sensible that we are not under the law but under grace, and shall never come into condemnation. O! how free is a people in such a case, though they walk through the flames, the flames shall not kindle upon them, though they pass through the floods, the waters shall heap together as did Jordan, and the Lord will be with them in trouble. The sun and the moon shall only have power to smite, according to his will.

Rejoice O ye redeemed of the Lord, let your harps be ever in tune; be instant in season, and out of season O! consider that the manna falls around thy camp, and the Lord is pleased to feed thee with the bread of heaven, with nothing less than Angel's food. God has brought thee into this spiritual wilderness state, and while the heathen around thee are daily committing wickedness against his Majesty, thou art made to fear him, and to drink of the stream flowing from the smitten rock.

*Watch and Pray.*

He was tempted in all points like we are, who gave this important exhortation. He saw our spirits that they were willing, but that our flesh was weak, subjected to the tempter's fiery darts, he was aware that his disciples were liable to be overcome, he in his great mercy, and forethought, prayed for them, he saith thus, I pray for them, I pray not for the world. O! thou eternal Son of the Highest, do thou address me as thou didst Peter, "I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not."

O! keep me through thy word, thy word is truth. Let me be convinced of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment to come. Kept by thee, no weapon that may be formed against me shall prosper, kept by thee, a thousand may fall on my right hand, and ten thousand on my left with pestilence, famine and sword; but the fatal consequences shall not come nigh me. But should some sudden calamity overtake me; should the appalling hand of desecration press on me; should death threaten inevitable departure, yet O! Lord kept by thee, thou wilt guard me, and guide me, through all the changing scenes; and thou wilt comfort me in the prospect of dissolution, and receive me in thy presence for ever.

*We must through much Tribulation enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.*

When the mind is elevated, leaning on the pleasures of sense; when the soul is captivated by the vivid flashes of ideal glories; arising from a creation newly termed on futurity, which vanish and die like the ephemera of an hour; how then are we entrapped, and how do we make to ourselves the fatal mistake of judging the most High after our own thoughts, and limiting his dealings towards us. We absolutely dictate to him and expect that he will work the future as we desire it, because we imagine we are what he would have us to be, this conceived complacency arises from the carnal mind. We forget it to be taroed much tribulation, or being partially blinded, we leave out too much, until God in his meriting dealings crosses our purposes. O! my soul be transformed to the will of Jesus, consider him as a man of sorrows—and consider, that thou must have thy sorrows too; consider thyself as a servant, consider him as Lord—be patient in tribulation, for he has told thee, it would be thine to share. Be comforted in his peace, for he said, that in him thou shouldst have it. What though it may be thy lot, to mourn, to be oppressed, to be persecuted, and to weep; yet, thou mayest be blessed by him with all spiritual blessings.

*It is finished.*

The sinner is then justified, and consequently will be glorified. The Redeemer—the Branch of the Lord—the stem of Jesse—the wonderful Counsellor, took upon himself the weak tabernacle of humanity. He became a man of sorrows, wounded and bruised, and at last suspended on the tree for us men and for our salvation. The deed is done,—through grace the drunkard leaves his bowl—the voluptuous the banquet—the swearer his profanity; and they become new creatures in Christ Jesus. They live under a sense of spiritual freedom. Righteousness and Truth for them have met together—Mercy and peace have kissed each other. By faith they have cast themselves upon the sovereign mercy of Jehovah. It is by faith they believe, and they shall never perish.

*Thou God see'st me.*

If God be for us who can be against us, may I walk as always in his presence, believing the truth of that declaration, that "In him we live and move and have our being" knowing this, may I walk unfeign'dly before God, worshipping him in Spirit and in truth, Amen.

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