

in their epistles ; and which even the awful visions of the apocalypse seemed designed to magnify and illustrate, by representing it as the point of harmony between heaven and earth, and the link that connects the events of time with the glories of eternity. The Bible, then, inquirer, presents salvation to your attention, and employs all its fulness to attract, all its authority to command, all its graciousness to invite you to the pursuit of this vast possession ; and even uses its threatenings and its thunders for the merciful purpose of driving you for refuge to the hope set before you in the gospel. Is not *this* encouragement?

6. *The unchangeableness of God's nature and covenant* are a source of boundless hope.

He has invited, he has commanded, he has promised ; and he is not a man that he should lie, nor the son of man that he should repent ; but he is the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, nor shadow of a change. Immutable in his nature, he is equally so in his purpose, and in his promise. Whom he loveth, he loveth to the end. Could you examine the secret lists of his friends, you would find neither blots nor erasures there. "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate, to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the First-born among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called ;