

among men ; there has been a child born and a Son given to that soul. We can look back in our experience when, it seems, according to human reason, that there has been something that we may almost call miraculous ; but it already begins to appear so plain and simple that we begin to learn to love it and because we love it we begin to serve it, obey its teachings, follow its requirements, and comply with its commandments. Then the truthfulness of that great and glorious announcement made in regard to the coming of the Son of God, is measurably realized in our individual experience—that there is a child born, a Son given. Oh, what a source of joy and gratitude it is to the heart when it realizes that these great and honored tidings of joy, are not alone applicable to the dead state of being, but to us here in this life as well. While I am fearless to declare this morning, although in a feeble and humble way, that I firmly believe that all truth and rich blessings of God, spiritual in their nature, Divine in their origin, are applicable to the children of men here in this probationary state of existence. Do not misunderstand me. It is not detracting in any particular from the rich enjoyments expected in that future world, from the bright anticipations of fresh enjoyments there, but I firmly believe these rich blessings can be realized in this state of existence and the soul diverted of all anxiety about a future state of being. I want our experiences to be that we will each and all come to know Christ to be the way, the truth and the life ; in other words, to know that it is the same Divine Power that has been ever resting upon us and made us sons and daughters of God, that we may come to find him to be the sole guiding influence of our hearts. I know the rich blessing of such a course. If we are faithful to such teachings and to its dictates it will lead us into continual peace. Scripture perpetuates this, and so does each individual experience, that He is the way, the truth and the life, and there is no

other name by which we can be saved except by the name of Christ. And I want you all to spiritually understand this ; in the common walks of life to realize that there is nothing wonderful or miraculous about it, although it may seem so to the human reason. It is nothing more nor less than spiritual enlightenment ; the truths of the Gospel spiritually interpreted, viewed in a spiritual light. Then it is that its influence is felt and the mind sees clearly the light of day, the blessings of Divine truth as we run along. We will become the pupils of a Divine inspiration, and as we come to love and serve the Lord we will find that He has first loved us, and it is for our eternal good that His love is manifested. The love which visits us is a measure of the same love that manifested itself through Christ, that holy example, and no man has a right to say that we cannot live in that condition of acceptance with the Father. God never was so unreasonable as to set an example before men that they could not approach or carry out. Common authority of the day has taught us that we as a family are totally depraved and come so far short of the glory of God that it is impossible thus to live, and while I do not condemn any individual man, a brother or sister, I do feel in my own heart to disagree with that idea or opinion. I believe that you and I, that all the children of the human family are children of God by the law of creation—children of heaven, instead of the devil ; and that we are not only so, but designed to remain and retain our relationship, and that we are clothed with responsibility as soon as we arrive at years of understanding. We are clothed with responsibility to maintain that glorious relationship with Him. Therefore, I would invite those young in years to early give attention to these convictions of truth. Small and almost insignificant as they may seem to be to the human reason, they are none the less worthy of attention. They are the very milk of the Kingdom