

are hostile to peace. While other instrumentality can at best only lop off some branches from the Upas tree of discord, it shrivels and destroys its very roots. It is appropriately termed "the Gospel of Peace," because it reconciles man to God; but it no less appropriately bears that title because, by carrying with it the seeds of a new character, to be implanted in those who embrace it, it creates harmony between man and man. As yet, indeed, its pacific effects have been apparent only in a very limited degree, for it has been but partially received; but as it advances, and, through the blessing of the Most High, makes its way among mankind (and we saw, at the outset of the discourse, that Scripture foretells its universal diffusion), it shall give rise to a state of perfect and most blessed harmony among the members of the human family. Comparatively little as may have been the progress of the religion of Jesus hitherto, it shall spread its conquests from pole to pole,—regenerating the hearts of men, and, as it marches along, awakening at every step the odours of mutual love,—putting an end to hatred, and violence, and oppression,—loosening the bonds of the slave,—quenching the unhallowed fires of ambition, and causing wars to cease,—abolishing the names of envy, suspicion, sensuality, and grasping avarice,—giving birth to brotherly kindness, and confidence among men one towards another,—softening every thing that is austere, elevating every thing that is low, refining every thing that is gross, destroying every thing that is hateful in human character,—teaching all men, in a word, the golden lesson, to do to others as they would that others should do to them. If such is to be, in point of fact, the result of the dissemination of the doctrines of the cross, who would not pray, with a reference even to the temporal happiness of his species, for the coming of the kingdom of Christ?