

unclean. Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem; loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion."

God had a church then, he has a church now, and we are sure that he always will have a seed to serve him. When Zion travaileth she shall bring forth children, and this house which has been dedicated to the worship of God, shall, we have reason to believe, be the birth-place of many souls. It is the earnest desire and prayer of our hearts that many souls should be converted within its consecrated walls while we live and labour in our Lord's vineyard; and after we have served our generation by the will of God, and have passed away from the scene of toil and labour, to our rest and reward, may multitudes yet unborn, be born again in this amiable tabernacle, this house of God, this gate of heaven. "And of Zion it shall be said this and that man was born in her: and the Highest himself shall establish her." "The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there."

The theme suggested for our consideration is THE BIRTH-PLACE OF SOULS.

This, beloved hearers, is a noble theme, an interesting theme, an important theme, a practical theme, an attractive theme, and I need scarcely add, it is a theme peculiarly appropriate for our contemplation and serious consideration on such an occasion as the present.

Here is a House of Worship providentially provided for us, and purchased by us. It is neat, comfortable and commodious. This is the first Lord's day in which we as a church and congregation have been privileged to meet within its walls; and it seems very reasonable, and even necessary for us as a people to ask ourselves the question what are the ends which we have in view in entering upon the possession of this meeting-house? These ends are numerous and various. We cannot even mention them all.

The grand ultimate end which we had in view at the commencement of our movement as a people in this city was, if we know our own hearts and motives, *the promotion of the glory of God*. It was for this end we organized ourselves into a Christian Church, and we hope that in all our future movements we shall be enabled to seek the glory of God as our chief end. Our object in meeting here to-day is that God may be honoured, and that his cause and kingdom may be promoted. It is our earnest desire that sinners