

sure all the gold and silver in the World could not make you happy ! This Bible contains many stories of people who thus tried to find peace without God, but who found they could not do so, no more than their eyes could be satisfied with having money put on them, but light kept from them. You can read for yourselves about a man who was one of the most powerful kings and richest merchants that ever lived ; who had all the world could give him, but who found that all this, *without love to God* his Father, was but "vanity and vexation of spirit." Read Ecclesiastes, 2d chapter, from verse 4 to end of verse 11. There is another far more dreadful story than this of a rich man who cared only for himself, and had no love to his God or to his neighbour, and, while he had a *kind* of happiness, yet you will see, when you read the story, that it did not last ; and, not only so, but, even while it lasted, it could no more fill up his heart than a candle can fill the World with light without the sun. Read in Luke, 16th chapter, from verse 19 to verse 31. And now, my dear children, what do I wish you to learn from all this ? It is this, to be truly happy for ever, is to *love God as your Father, to trust in Him, and do His will*. I have a great deal to say to you about this in other sermons. But *think* about what has been already said ; and remember that, while God gives you *all* the good you have, health of body, and cheerful mind, your sports, amusements, with merry hearts to enjoy them, your dear companions, friends, relations, parents—everything in short except what is bad, and what would therefore make you miserable—that He also gives you what is more than all this,—more than all the world,—*He gives you Himself!*—and says : "Come, my children, and speak to me, and love me with all your hearts, for I am your Father, and love you, and give you all things richly to enjoy, and wish to make you happy as long as you live." Therefore speak to Him in prayer, and say : "My Father, Thou hast made me, and preserved me, and redeemed me from sin and Satan through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, my Saviour. Thou hast given me all my mercies, and, best of all, Thou hast given me Thyself, that I might know, love and serve Thee with gladness now and for ever ! Oh ! my Father, forgive me for having so often forgotten Thee, and put Thee out of my heart. Forgive me that I do not know Thee better, and love Thee more. Keep me, my Father, through the Holy Spirit of love, to think of Thee oftener than I have done, to feel more grateful to Thee for all I enjoy, and never to do or say any thing displeasing to Thee, my Maker, Preserver, Redeemer, my ever present and ever loving Father ! Hear me, for Christ's sake. Amen."—*Edinburgh Christian Magazine for February.*