

the face of a heathenism firmly rooted in the life of the nations and protected by the might of Rome. Luther went forward though all the resources of the imperial and papal power were against him. Morrison, the pioneer of Chinese missions, went forward to meet difficulties insuperable to the eye of sense. When one tauntingly asked him: "Do you really think that you will make any impression on the idolatry of this great empire?" he replied: "No, but I expect that God will." These servants of God went forward, and the way opened up before them. There is no power which is able to resist the progress of those who are thoroughly consecrated to God.

And the angel of God . . . removed and went behind them; and the pillar . . . stood behind them, v. 19. It is told of Peden, one of the Scottish Covenanters, that more than once on the moors of Scotland he was saved from the pursuing dragoons by being enveloped in a mist. The secular historians relate that Emperor and Pope were once and again prevented, by causes independent of the Reformation, from using armed force against it, until the movement had become so powerful that it could not be arrested. Biography and history witness to the reality of that divine protection of which the psalmist

sang: "O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle." (Ps. 140: 7.)

And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground . . . And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them, vs. 22, 23. Israel found in the sea a path to freedom, the Egyptians, a grave. God makes a distinction between the righteous and the wicked. Soon He will make between these two classes an eternal separation. Death is not for all a gate opening into heaven. Heaven is a place for those who are fit for heaven. And death of itself will not make us fit for heaven. It is those only who have been cleansed by the blood of Christ and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, who go to heaven.

And the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea, v. 27. The day of reckoning for tyranny and oppression came at last. But God had seen every act of oppression, and at the appointed time interposed to punish the oppressors. So their European masters oppressed the natives of India, and brought upon themselves the horrors of the Indian mutiny. So, too, the Jews rejected their Messiah, and brought about the destruction of their nation. No violence or wrong escapes the eye of the Almighty.

POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS

Faith in God and forgetfulness of self are marks of a true leader. v. 13.

The foes of God perish in the face of the followers of God. v. 13.

In spiritual warfare the feeblest are the mightiest. v. 14.

God answers our prayers through our own efforts. v. 15.

Those who will not know the God of grace shall know the God of justice. v. 18.

Obedience to God's commands is rewarded by admission into God's presence. v. 19.

The divine love of good is equalled by the divine hatred of evil. v. 20.

To summon a wind at a particular moment is as much a miracle as to drive back the sea without a wind. v. 21.

Faith transforms barriers into opportunities. v. 22.

The sinner brings upon himself his own punishment. v. 23.

The guilty are always troubled in the presence of God. v. 24.

Conscience echoes the judgments of God. v. 25.

We can flee from God only by fleeing to God. v. 27.

When a door opens in front, and that which is behind us shuts, then God says, "Go forward!" The navigator finds his position by taking the point where latitude and longitude cut each other; and we shall find our guidance in the intersection of the Word with the indications of providence;