

be our guide even unto death." If the group of hills on which the Zion of Palestine stood with its palaces, its towers, and its temple, was called the city of God, the city of the Great King, and the joy of the whole earth, surely it is no perversion of language to call the church of the living God, in which he dwells—to which he manifests himself—and through which he makes known his moral character to the world, by this significant and delightful name. If the Zion of Palestine was a city set upon a hill, and could not be hid; this is still more emphatically true of the church of Christ at the present day. If the Old Testament Zion was the source of spiritual blessings to the surrounding nations, we cannot help viewing the Christian Church, our New Testament Zion, as the very soul, and life, and light of a dark and benighted world.

In all past ages God has had a seed to serve him, a people called by His name, a remnant according to the election of grace. Even in the darkest days of apostacy, superstition, and wide-spread spiritual desolation and moral death, Zion travailed and brought forth children. When all Europe was under the iron-sway of ignorance and error,—when the darkness of the dark ages was so densely dark that the masses of the people could not even feel it,—then, yes, blessed be God, even then, there shone a number of bright stars out through those inky folds of papal darkness that were spread all over the ecclesiastical heavens, to tell the few who were just waking from their long night of spiritual slumber, that the morning of a brighter and better day was about to dawn. We cannot here and now count the number of those stars, the names of the greatest, the brightest, and the best of them have been familiar to the most of us from our earliest recollection. There was Wickliff, Huss, Cranmer, Latimer, Luther, Calvin, Melancthon, Knox, and a multitude more which we might name. They were noble men, reformers in their day, they shone like stars of the first magnitude in the ecclesiastical firmament.

They spake as men having authority; they uttered their voice, the earth shook, and the Church which had long been slumbering and sleeping, awoke.

Zion then heard the voice of her watchmen who were at once her spiritual children, and her spiritual fathers sounding in her ears the cry, "Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the