

that in them lies to make others partakers of their joy. And this is the great lesson to be drawn from the reply which Philip made to Nathanael, when the latter asked 'Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?' 'Come and see.' Yes, dear brethren, if we would win others to Christ, we *must* be able to speak with the confidence and assurance which nothing can give but a *real* acquaintance with Him ourselves. We must be able to say to them calmly, mildly, but not boastfully '*Come and see.*' Come and see whether Jesus is not the same 'yesterday, to-day, and forever,' the very same gracious, loving Saviour we have described him to be, whether His service is not the same blessed service of freedom which we have represented it to be, and whether His yoke be not easy and His burden light. Come and judge for yourselves. We must be able to speak thus—and we cannot speak thus, or in such a way as will be likely to prevail, unless, I repeat, we speak from our own happy experience. But if we can, and our own lives bear out our words and give them force, we need not doubt that, with God's blessing, they will in some instances, at all events, prove effectual. There may be those, it is true, who will turn a deaf ear after all, and those who will scoff and ridicule; but there will be others also of Nathanael's spirit—men of tractable minds, and honest hearts, who, however they may have been kept in darkness, are seeking in simplicity and sincerity to know the way of God, and resolved to walk therein. And these shall be our 'crown of rejoicing' in the day of the Lord Jesus. And what a crown! Oh brethren think of this—think of the glory of *such* a crown—souls which shall call us blessed—and praise God through