

Second. Along with this method, a very instructive line of Bible study is *Bible biographies*. The whole Bible is the biography of our Lord Jesus Christ. His life should come first and last; for He is "The chief among ten thousand and altogether lovely." In sacrifice and type, in prophecy and gospel, it is *His* life that is being unfolded. All your study must, therefore, have the Saviour of men for its goal. You are wanting to know God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent.' But take up Gidcon, Daniel, Peter, Paul. Make the Bible *your* book, and become familiar with its men.

Third. Make a *subject-study* of the Bible. Take such subjects as are found in the subject-index of the Oxford Teacher's Bibles, and turn up *every passage* which makes reference to your subject. *Keep your pen and paper before you. Carefully read the content* to each verse. This is very important. If the verse really bears on the subject, *write it out*, and write down after it any thought that may occur to you. Leave a little space for subsequent thoughts, or the noting of an illustration. After you have gone over every reference to the matter under consideration, look over your work. You will find that many verses have almost the same thought. Find the leading thoughts, and group them in such a way as to bring out the chief teaching of Scripture on the subject studied. Then in preaching, get the people to turn up their Bibles as you read the verses you have selected. If you memorize the more pointed texts, and carry them round with you in your heart, they will come to the people warm with your life-blood, and illustrated by everything you have seen as you meditated on them.

But enough on this subject, though I would fain write much more.

DEPARTMENT II.—Study the *work of God in Nature*.

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." The heavens and the earth, then, are but "the workshop of the Creator"—to quote Sir Wm. Dawson's expression. Star and rock, bird and beast, must, therefore, bear the imprint of Jehovah's creation hand; and electricity and gravitation be but His bond servants. If we would *know God*, we must learn to spell out the heavens, and decipher the earth. Thus the stars, and the countless varieties of life in air and earth and water, will be found to be ideographs in the hieroglyphics of God. Then we will look to heaven and exclaim "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth His handiwork."¹⁴ As with uplifted soul, we read the grand story that God

¹⁴ Ps. 19: 1.