

The Bible was never read except on the Sabbath, and then with carelessness and inattention. They endeavoured, however, to persuade themselves that they were doing their duty, and that God neither required nor expected any more from their hands. But the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ awakened them, during my visit among them, from the insensibility which so strongly marked their persons and character. If ever I saw heaven on earth, it was in that house. I could not refrain from exclaiming, "What hath God wrought!"

But I must give you a few particulars of the commencement and progress of this work of grace. One of the sons was first awakened while hearing an evangelical sermon, and the anxious enquiry was made by him, "What must I do to be saved?" The parents beheld the anguish of the child's mind, and were led to inquire, "Have not *we* reason to mourn on account of our sins? If our son laments that he has sinned, and prays for pardon to God for Christ's sake, have not *we*, being older, *much* greater reason?" Their conviction became so deep that they could no longer attend as heretofore to the concerns of the world; they saw that "one thing was needful," and that the world could not afford what they so earnestly desired. Thus were these parents awakened to a sense of their fearful condition. They read—they prayed—they repented, and were forgiven—they believed in Christ, found peace with God, and had the comfort of the Holy Ghost.

Meanwhile, the work of grace was progressing among the younger members of the family,—four of them, including the young man who was first awakened, obtained peace through the blood of the Lamb; and the rest were in a state of deep concern. The Bible was now ardently and prayerfully read—they sought in it as for hid treasure; and at length were all

brought to a participation in the blessings of the Gospel of God's dear Son. They felt that their deliverance was all of grace; and therefore were willing to give themselves to the service of God. The enquiry of each one was, "Lord, what wouldst thou have me to do?" The ordinances of the Gospel appeared to be obligatory upon them as believers in Christ; hence, they desired to profess their attachment to Him, by conforming to them; and as, in the Scriptures, they saw that baptism preceded the Lord's Supper, they concluded that the same order ought still to be continued. With these views they submitted to the command of Christ—were baptized, and were not ashamed; but rejoiced that they had the privilege of following that Saviour whom they loved. It was affecting to see the aged father descend into the baptismal stream, and submit to be buried with his Lord in baptism. He was followed by his wife, his sons, and then by his daughters, till the whole "*household*" was baptized. The whole family, comprising more than twelve, then sat down at the table of the Lord; and with melting hearts and streaming eyes, which spoke the fervour of their love, *remembered* Jesus their Saviour.

Was not this a converted family? They were turned from darkness to light, from sin to holiness, from Satan to serve the living God. The agent was the Holy Spirit—the instrument the *preaching* of the Gospel. O, how many unconverted families yet remain in our land? How many ungodly parents who care not for the salvation of their children? How many children, who, though warned of their dangers, and invited to Christ, yet continue to neglect him? The family, whose conversion I have endeavoured to describe, now live in the enjoyment of the love of God. The parents and the children bow before the Lord, and offer to him "the sacri-