

hearts and consciences of their children and domestics, and, by the blessing of the Holy Spirit, save them from darkness, delusion, and death.

4. *Fervent and believing prayer.* When Hedley Vicars was twelve years old, his dying father laid his hand upon his boy's head, and prayed that he might be saved from sin, and become a good soldier of Jesus Christ. That father died, and that son went out into the world, thoughtless, prayerless, profane. A few years roll past, and a thoughtless and pleasure seeking young British officer arrives in Halifax, Nova Scotia, with his regiment. He is there brought in contact with the late Dr. Twining, chaplain to the forces. Under the ministrations of that devoted servant of God, the young officer is arrested in his career of folly. He is alarmed in his conscience. He feels that he is a lost sinner. His all-absorbing enquiry is, "What shall I do to be saved?" Sitting in his room, full of terrors, with an open Bible before him, his eye lights upon those blessed words, "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." A ray of hope enters his heart, and then and there he devotes himself to the service of his father's God. It is Hedley Vicars. From that day till the day of his death on the bloody heights of the Crimea, he was one of the most devoted servants of his country, and one of the truest servants of his God, that ever adorned the ranks of the British army. Such is the efficacy of a father's prayers for a thoughtless, wayward boy.

Seldom was the Redeemer angry whilst he tabernacled on earth. Yet, there was one occasion when he was much displeased. It was when the disciples rebuked parents for bringing their children to Him that He might bless them. "When Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." Moreover, let it be noticed, that the little ones were brought to Christ that He might "put his hands on them" and bless them. That was all that the parents desired. But was the compassionate Redeemer content with a bare compliance with their request? No. "He took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them." From that incident let parents draw abundant encouragement to present their children before God in prayer, assured that He is "able," and willing as He is able "to do" for them and theirs "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think."

A Sabbath school female teacher, who had been remarkably successful in her work, not long since, passed away to glory. In her diary, after her decease, there were found the three following entries: "Resolved this day, that I will pray *daily* for *each member* of my Sabbath school Class." Farther on in the diary, there was found the following: "Resolved this day, that I will pray *daily* for every member of my class, and that I will *agonize in prayer*." Farther on, there was found another entry: "Resolved this day, that I will pray *daily* for every member of my class, that I will *agonize in prayer*, and that I will *expect an answer*." Christian parents, pray for your children: pray for them *daily*: pray for them *by name*: *agonize in prayer*, and *expect an answer*. Thus praying, the promised blessing will not be withheld, "I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring."