

eyes with a stroke, was a sign that the sanctuary of which they boasted, should be desolate, and their children put to the sword. Like the children of Israel, it becomes Christian people, under the affliction of their ministers, to say : " Wilt thou not tell us what these things are to us." They are intended indirectly to benefit congregations by their influence on ministers. But they have their direct lessons. They say to you : " This is not your rest ;" they proclaim aloud : " Set your affections on things which are above, not on things on the earth." They should tend to produce closer sympathy between ministers and people, and they serve as a warning to improve your privileges, lest God, in his anger, take them away.

2ndly. This subject speaks to *the young*. My dear children, be warned. You may live till you grow old, but it is just as likely that you will die young. Many of you will certainly die in early life. But you are sinners—you have done many things you should not have done, and you do them because you have an evil heart which leads you astray. Unless these sins are forgiven, you must perish for ever ; and unless you get a new heart, that will love God and all that is good, you will never be fit for heaven. Oh, then, pray to God to forgive your sins, and ask him, too, to give you his Spirit, to change your wicked heart. Do not be discouraged by thinking that you are too small for Christ to regard. He loves little children,—he is willing to receive even the youngest here,—to save you from sin, to make you a good child, and when you die to take you home to himself in glory. If you are his, then, at whatever time death comes, it will be to you great gain. You will go to Christ, where is fullness of joy, and to his right hand, where are pleasures for evermore.

3rdly. This subject calls upon *bereaved Christian parents*, not to sorrow as those who have no hope. You are allowed to mourn, but not to murmur. You must weep. Jesus himself wept at the grave of a beloved friend : but you are not to be swallowed up of overmuch sorrow. You must feel, and feel