

skilful as her sons of toil unquestionably are, and wise as her men of science may be, how rapidly would her prosperity decline, if for a few seasons, cold and chilling winds should extend but a single month beyond the usual time.

Should we not then regard the present season as a special mercy from the Lord, the product of His power, the manifestation of His will, and viewed in this light may it not remind us, *ought* it not to remind us, that of all *spiritual revival*, whether in the heart or Church, God is the author. Long and dreary has been the reign of Winter. Springs and rivers have been frozen, and the opening of buds and blossoms checked and nipped by the chilling frosts of Winter. Visible and most lamentable have been the deficiencies of life and power and love in the Church.

Revival is from the Lord. It comes from the making bare of the arm of Divine Power. It was the "*breath of the Lord*" which gave life to the dead in the valley of vision, and from skeleton fragments produced an exceeding great army.

When the winter of desolation was followed by a spring of vital action, and spiritual prosperity in the experience of the captives returned from Babylon, and when the source of this national revival was exhibited in the Olive trees, which yielded the oil to keep the burners in the golden candlestick supplied, this significant explanation of the vision was given, "Not by might nor by power, but by *my Spirit*, saith the Lord."

In the ushering in of the Pentecostal spring, how little account was made of learning, of eloquence, or of human power or wisdom. It was the doing of the Lord, not without human means, but so accomplished that the observant and the wise were constrained to say, as Christians will be constrained to say of all future revivals of genuine godliness, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name be the glory," for "Thou hast renewed the face of the earth."

2ndly. The Spring displays Divine Goodness.

Countless are the beauties and rich the profusion and variety of Spring. Survey the garden and note the myriads of living things in it, animal as well as vegetable, and the provision made for their support and comfort. Pass over the farm, roam through the forest, traverse the cultivated country, and you will see every hill and valley, and tree and shrub teeming with life and activity, and while living creatures are so abundant they are living in the midst of affluence. There is a profusion of the means of life. Truly the Lord is good and his tender mercies are over all his works.

And all developed in a few weeks! How vivid the contrast between the first of May and the first of June. What resources for the supply of his great family has our Heavenly Father thus displayed! Such abundance has in a short time been spread on the great table of nature, that we are amazed at the riches of the Divine liberality. The cereals on which man chiefly depends have been scarcely committed to the soil but the grasses, buds and leaves of plants, so essential to animated nature, have come forth with great profusion.

The Gospel is preached to the poor. The feast of the Great King exhibits *plenty, variety, elegance*, and suitableness of provision, for the most indigent and for the most neglected. At the Pentecostal Spring, at the Reformation Spring, and at all other true revival seasons, these rich and glorious provisions of infinite goodness have been appreciated and used.

Thy congregation then did make

Their habitation there

Of thine own goodness, for the poor

O God thou didst prepare.