

or have you something creeping in that makes you go half a day—a whole day perhaps—without having His presence? Are you content with living without any communications from Christ? Why does He speak of coming to us and not leaving us comfortless? Because He loved us and knew what would be the joy of our souls!

Has that an echo in your soul? Has this fellowship with Him such an echo in your souls that the joy of your path down here is, "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come again to you"? If the love of Christ has power in our souls, it will be so. Is it the *need* of our souls, because we have tasted His love? How can we manifest Christ, or be really effectual epistles of Christ, if our souls are not thus in communication with Him, and the flesh judged, enabling us to "bear about in our bodies the dying of Jesus, that the life also of Jesus may be made manifest in our mortal bodies"? (2 Cor. iv. 10.)

Only remember this, beloved friends, that "we are not our own, we are bought with a price" (1 Cor. vi. 19, 20). He has taken us up for eternal salvation; but He has taken our hearts up to be for *Christ*. Then it creates a want in our hearts, and He says, "I will manifest Myself unto him."

The Lord gave us to be so near Him, that the affections of Christ, which He has declared so abundantly to us, may have an echo in our hearts!

