

water inundates, or fire consumes it; or more private—as when poverty assails, or sickness prostrates, or calumny robs individuals of character, or death bereaves them of their friends. Spiritual judgments respect our inner man—as blindness of mind, insensibility of heart, callousness of conscience, and strong delusion. To both of these kinds of judgments the Jews have been signally subjected. What vast numbers of them has the sword devoured? how many have been cut off by famine and pestilence? They have been everywhere harassed and persecuted; they have been a reproach and a by-word among all nations. And they have been visited with severe spiritual judgments. “Blindness is happened unto them.” “There is a veil upon their hearts.” The prophecy of Esaias is fulfilled in them; “Go unto this people and say, hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: for the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and should be converted, and I should heal them.”

In the second place, we are to mention some of those judgments that are at present abroad in the earth. Of these there are not a few, both temporal and spiritual. It is, indeed, true that a great part of the world has been blessed with a plentiful harvest, which ought to awaken in our minds devout thankfulness. The calamities, however, which are abroad in the world, are neither few nor light. In some parts there is much commercial depression. There are great pecuniary deficiencies. Many have become insolvent. Want threatens to assail vast numbers, who were lately in affluence. Multitudes cannot look forward to the future without serious alarm. But even commercial depression, is not the most severe calamity that is at present in the earth. There are judgments of a still more appalling character; and of these the nation to which we belong has her full share. Britain has suffered severely in her Indian Empire. Those soldiers which were formerly her defence have turned their hands against her. Cruelties, at which humanity shudders and the heart sickens, have been perpetrated. Men women and children have been indiscriminately murdered. The melancholy tidings have cast deep gloom over Britain's land. Many families lately joyous have been filled with sadness. And can Britain plead innocence? Can she say that she has done nothing to bring God's judgments upon her? What is it that has raised her to her present high position among the nations of the earth? Is it not her Bible, her pure Christianity? But, ah! this she has ignored in India—at least to a very lamentable extent. Heathenism has been pampered; Christianity has been fettered; the labours of the missionary, whose commission warrants him to preach the gospel to every creature, having been restricted. Among the Sepoys he may not go. Should one of these become a convert to the religion of Jesus, he must be expelled from his regiment, lest others should be infected, as if Christianity were a contamination. Could it be expected that such procedure would escape the chastisement of Heaven? And it has not escaped. It deserves especial remark that among those very persons, from whom the missionary was excluded the mutiny arose.

But, there are spiritual as well as temporal judgments abroad in the world. These may be unseen and unfelt; but are not the less dreadful on this account. We fear, that of these we ourselves are the subject, although we may not perceive it. God gives a people the Bible, he sets up his sanctuary among them, he favors them with his ordinances. He expects from them suitable returns, he looks for improvement corresponding to the privileges enjoyed. “To whom much is given, of them much is required.” But they undervalue