

## GODLY SENSIBILITIES, WITHOUT GODLY ENERGY.

GENESIS XXVII.

What moral illustrations that beautiful book of Genesis does afford us ; what a variety of character is exhibited for our warning and instruction ! Isaac takes his place in the midst of these characters thus produced and presented—and for a saint we get in him but a poor sample. He had godly *sensibilities*, as well as human, amiable, virtues ; but he had not godly *energy*. He reminds us of Jehoshaphat in other days. Jehoshaphat had godly sensibilities, but he failed in godly energy. Through vanity he failed : he joined affinity with Ahab, and had not strength to refuse to go to the battle with him. But still he had sensibilities in his soul that were spiritual and of divine workmanship—for in the midst of the prophets of Baal he was not satisfied. He had a witness within that this would not do, and he asked, “ Were there not beside a prophet of the Lord ? ” But, strange and humbling to tell it, he would still go to the battle in company with the very Ahab who had thus wounded the spiritual sensibilities that stirred in his soul, and who had thus, in infidel revolt from the God of Israel, consulted the prophets of Baal (2 Chron. xviii). This was terrible ; but this was that king Jehoshaphat.

Isaac, so, on this occasion, had his sensibilities, but not his corresponding energies. It was not