

as revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that speak are Christ's have crucified the flesh, with the affections and lusts. even if we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

The young man then dwelt on the known truth, that *here* we have no abiding city, and on the equally admitted fact, that almost all persons, high and low, rich and poor, profess to seek one to come; but with how much indecision and uncertainty! content neither to know the way, nor to see that they are walking in that which leadeth unto life; but that our abiding city is in eternity, and that after this life nothing will ever rectify a mistake, if the way quite be missed.

The young man and the traveller parted at the cross-roads: the sign-post was there; and, pointing to it, the former said to the latter, with a smile, "Farewell! remember the sign-post I have spoken to you of. Look at the Bible to know if you are in the right way for a happy eternity; and if ever in your future travels you should ask, 'Which is the way?' remember that a stranger told you to seek the way that leadeth unto life."

Years passed on, and the two had never met: they had apparently forgotten each other. The young man had become a Minister of Christ; and, going once on some mission to a country-town distant from his own rural charge, he was received by the Rector of the parish. While they were together, his Curate came in, and at once stood still at the door, gazing at the visiter, who looked at him as on one he had seen before. Suddenly the Curate started forward, and, stretching out his hand, cried with some emotion, and sparkling countenance, "I cannot, surely, be mistaken: you are the man that told me 'the way.'" The circumstance had quite passed from the visiter's mind. With gratitude and joy he heard that the way he had pointed out to a strange traveller had been found by him; and that the knowledge he had gained from his researches after that evening's journey, had finally been the means of bringing a soul to Christ, and adding a faithful and zealous Minister to the church of God.—*Tract Magazine*.

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Afflictions are not so much threatened, as promised, to the children of God.