

"Gospel hardened"—and the saints become "truth hardened," and the faithful preaching of the Word falls flat on both, and there is no spiritual fruit.

Even after we have heard the Gospel and believed, we need a further work that we may *know* them. John wrote his Gospel that we might "believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God: and believing, have life through His name" (John 20:31). But later he wrote a letter "unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life" (1 John 5:13). It is one thing to have eternal life by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ; it is another thing to *know* by an experience in the heart that we have life.

This was the burden of the apostle's heart for those who had believed and were sealed. And so he prays that the eyes of their heart might be opened, that they might catch "the *spirit* of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him." Why is there so much coldness and formality in the churches? Not necessarily because the truth is not known and believed; but because the eyes of the heart are not enlightened. This prayer of the apostle is needed to-day.

2. SOME THINGS THAT SHOULD BE KNOWN (vs. 18, 19.)

He next specifies some things that he would have them know. *That ye may know what is the hope of His calling; and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints: and what the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, . . . which He wrought in Christ when He raised Him from the dead.* Three things are included in this petition: