

his lips and purify his soul, and he is a new man. He does not throw away his talents, his genius, his learning; but they are all sanctified. With the simplicity of a child, and a heart overflowing with love, he preaches the truth, and a reformation follows. Whatever may be the seeming variations arising from the deficiency of knowledge, we have in these particular instances, strong historic indications of a general law.

What is true of individuals is true of churches also. Wherever a number of Christians are associated together, with the evident and exclusive aim of promoting purity of heart and life, they have prospered. Their creed may have included strange inconsistencies—their forms and ceremonies may have frequently been the offspring of conceit, and devoid of taste—they may have been generally uneducated and without the advantages of wealth or influential friends—but with a supreme devotion to experimental holiness, they revealed an inner spiritual and powerful life, which has defied all persecution and survived the rage of enemies.—*Bishop J. T. Peck.*

THE JOY OF THE LORD.

In the last will and testament of our Lord there are many legacies, but the most remarkable is this legacy of joy. The words seem to be connected with the words which Jesus had spoken to them in this last discourse. It is a wonderful discourse, and the central thought is a revelation of a personal God, and a possibility of a union of the believer with this God as the foundation of this joy. We would deduce from this:

I. God is a joyous Being. The doctrine is plainly revealed in Scripture. He is God blessed forever; blessed means joyful. There is in God the joy of perfect being. Any normal, healthy, perfectly organized being finds in existence itself a source of joy. God has this joy of perfect being. All of His powers work with infinite vigor and infinite harmony, one with another, and so there is in God an infinite joy. (a) There is in God the joy of infinite love, or infinite loving. God is love, and He has many objects in which He delights. And because of His love for His people and His desire to save them, it is possible for God to have joy in His children in spite of their natural sinfulness. The joy of redemption, the joy of reaching out to save them, is so great that it leaves no room even in an infinite nature for grief.

(b) There is in God the joy of infinite power. A man never feels the power for work swelling within him without great joy at the consciousness of possessing this power. When the disciples returned to Jesus and reported that the devils were subject to