

might be according to His heart who took delight therein (Prov. viii. 31).

This quotation leads to a glorious apprehension, both of what was then doing and of our blessing. The special interest of God is in the sons of men ; wisdom (Christ is the wisdom of God) daily Jehovah's delight, rejoicing in the habitable part of His earth before creation, so that it was counsel, and His delight in the sons of men. His incarnation is the full proof of this. In Matthew we have our Lord when He takes His place with the remnant, as this is fully revealed ; and it is in the Son's taking this place as man, and being anointed of the Holy Ghost, that the whole Trinity is fully revealed. This is a wonderful unfolding of God's ways.

The means of this — redemption, the destruction of Satan's power, the reconciliation of man by faith, and of all things in heaven and earth with God—are not here pointed out. Everything depended on the person and presence of Him who was born. All was wrapped up in Him. The state of blessing was born in the birth of that Child.

Presented to the responsibility of man, man is unable to profit by it, and all fails. His position thereby becomes only so much the worse.

But grace and blessing being attached to the person of Him just born, all the consequences necessarily flow forth. After all, it was the intervention of God accomplishing the counsel of His