

He pleases. The promise is *sure* that, if we continue asking *humbly, and in the name of Jesus, and with a simple and earnest desire for the glory of God,* we SHALL receive as God sees it best to give.

It is not yet fixed where Mr. Benoiel is to carry on his missionary work; whether at Salonica—better known to us as the Thessalonica of the New Testament, or at Smyrna, another well known Bible name. There are many Jews in both places, and the deep necessities of both seem to utter out the cry to us now, as to the Apostle Paul of old, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." It is hoped that we may soon find missionaries to occupy both fields of labour. Meanwhile Mr. Benoiel has been sent to Constantinople, that, after conference with other servants of Christ in these quarters, he may be ready to go forth either to the shores of Macedonia or to the shores of Asia, according as the cry for help may seem the louder, and the door of usefulness the more open.

Our picture presents a view of Smyrna, stretched out upwards at the bend of its lovely bay as it now is,—not as it was. The Smyrna of the Book of Revelation is no more to be seen. Many centuries have elapsed since, as we read, "plague, fire, and earthquakes turned that city, one of the glories and ornaments of Asia, into rubbish and ashes, overturned its stately houses, and ruined its temples." The modern Smyrna is a populous and flourishing mercantile city; but how sad to think that scarcely a ray of Gospel light now shines in that place where so many tried servants of Christ proved "faithful unto death," and so obtained from Jesus, according to His promise, "the crown of life!" (See Rev. ii. 8-10.) A traveller who once visited the place says: "On the top of the hill which overlooks the city and bay is an old castle In our descent to the south-east we entered the amphitheatre where St. Polycarp, first Bishop of this city, was martyred, the stone steps being removed for the most part by the Turks for their buildings and other uses. In the sides of this vast amphitheatre or basin on the hill behind the city are still to be seen the two caves opposite to each other, where they used to enclose their lions, fighting with beasts being in ancient times the great diversion of the people of this country, to which they usually condemned their slaves, and the poor Christians especially." (See 1 Cor. xv. 32.)

This Polycarp lived in the time of the Evangelist John, and, we are told, conversed familiarly with him. Some suppose he is referred to in Rev. ii. 8, as the angel of the Church of Smyrna, to whom our Lord Jesus sent that epistle. Smyrna has always been celebrated as the place of Polycarp's martyrdom. A minute