

have "brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel,"* and the Prophet, piercing through the veil of futurity, and catching a distant view of his ministry, exclaims, "How beautiful upon the mountains, are the feet of Him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation."† Observe, however, that the Gospel is not simply the tidings of salvation, but of salvation *through a Saviour* ; Redemption through a Redeemer ; restoration to peace with God, to holiness and happiness, through a Mediator. This is the grand peculiarity of the Gospel. This is the great mystery, which prophecies intimated, types foreshadowed, Apostles preached, and angels desired to look unto, viz. that "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself;‡ that there is no other name under Heaven whereby we can be saved;|| that He is the way, the truth, and the life, and that no man cometh unto the Father, but by Him."¶ It was evidently, brethren, the chief design of Apostolic preaching, and it is still the leading design of every faithful Minister of the Gospel, to preach Christ crucified, to exhibit the cross of Jesus as the only basis of the sinner's hope to hold forth the incarnate suffering, glorified son of God, as the alone medium, through which we can obtain remission of sin, communion with God, spiritual assistance and eternal blessedness. Hence we hear from the Apostle the wise decision : "I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ and him crucified;"§ and again, the noble declaration, "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified to me and I to the world."**

* 2 Tim. i. 10.

† Isai. lii. 7.

‡ 2 Cor. v. 19.

|| Acts iv. 12.

¶ John xiv. 6.

§ 1 Cor. ii. 1-2.

** Gal. vi. 14.