

## GOD'S PRECIOUS THINGS.

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Our common moral sense of God will tell us that *holiness* and *righteousness* must be precious with Him : " Holiness becometh Thine house, O Lord, for ever" (Ps. xciii. 5). Purity and truth, and the maintenance of all the cares of order and integrity, must be infinitely according to Him. The conscience will bear this witness.

Faith knows that *His grace* is precious with Him. Faith knows that well. He delighteth in mercy. The gospel provides joy for the Divine mind. Faith understands this about God beyond the thoughts of the conscience or the moral sense that is in us.

The Gospel is the Gospel of the blessed (or happy) God (1 Tim. i. 11). In the eyes of the Lord the feet of the preachers of it on the mountains are beautiful ; and in the eyes of the Lord the garments, the mystic garments of the priests, the ministers of it, in the temple are beautiful—" Glory and beauty" (Rom. x. 15 ; Ex. xxviii. 2 ; Heb. ii. 7)

The Divine mind is thus disclosed to us. We apprehend it, thus far, with certainty. A meek and quiet spirit is, with the Lord, of great price (1 Pet. iii. 4). There is also richest joy before Him in heaven in the grace that welcomes a lost and returned sinner (Luke xv. 7, 10).

But, I ask, are not His *counsels* dear to Him ? Are not the events of his bosom dear to Him ?