

less, and hell-deserving, and rely entirely and alone, upon his finished work for you, as the only ground of hope."

We then left him to consider what had been said and promised to see him soon: when we called and inquired how he did, he exclaimed—"O Sir, I am happy now, I have given myself to Jesus. O Sir, I feel as if I was in a new world since you showed me the right way;" and from that time to his death, he was a rejoicing believer in the Lord Jesus, and felt fully assured, that Heaven would be his final home. J. L.

SECRET PRAYER.

Our Saviour enjoins on his followers the duty of secret prayer. He commands them to enter into their closets and to shut the door, and to pray to their Father, who seeth in secret. He, at the same time, as our pattern, sets us the example of praying to God in private. He was accustomed to rise up a great while before it was day, and go into a desert place by himself alone, and there pour out his heart to his Father in heaven.

All who revere the authority of Christ, and who delight to walk in his footsteps, practise secret devotion.

Secret prayer yields us a large measure of enjoyment. It brings us into the immediate presence of the ever-blessed God. When we are in his presence, realizing his presence, he pours out upon us, out of his exhaustless fulness, as much of blessing as our souls are able to receive. This is a bliss vastly superior to the joys of earth, a bliss of which the poor worldling, who seeks his happiness from earth's pleasures, knows nothing.

Secret prayer conforms us to the mind of Jesus. If we have intimate intercourse with evil-disposed persons, we become like them. "Evil communications corrupt good manners." If we associate with the good, we shall most probably imitate them. If we have much intercourse with the infinitely good and holy God in prayer, when no eye but his own sees us, we shall grow in conformity with him. The influence of his presence, as well as the positive blessings, which he bestows in answer to prayer, tends to promote this growth in resemblance to Jesus. In secret prayer, we are likely to unburden our whole souls to God, so that we are brought under the restraining and purifying influence of his grace, as well as blessed with abundance of peace.

Secret prayer fits us for usefulness. It is in secret prayer that we get courage to do our duty. In secret prayer we attain to a deep in-