

3. *Seek to understand Christ's words.* What you do not understand, ask Christ to explain; prayer is the best key to the Bible.

4. *Be mindful of God's bounties.* A grateful recollection of God's favours to us in the past would enable us to trust him for the future; *Psa. cvi.*

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#### THE REV. J. DENHAM SMITH.

We were favoured with a three days' visit last week from this brother, beloved for his works' sake, who delivered addresses in Freemasons' hall on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and on Wednesday afternoon.

On the first evening he spoke at some length on that inexhaustible chapter, *Isaiah liii.*, and then, previously to prayer, read a number of letters, principally from persons present, who earnestly desired, and some of whom evidently expected, to find rest and peace before they left. The address was upon those words in *Exodus*, "And will by no means clear the guilty." After showing that God, the foundations of whose throne are righteousness and judgment, cannot clear the guilty, and bringing in all the world guilty before God, the good tidings were declared that God can save the guilty because their guilt has been laid on the Holy One.

In the course of his first address, Mr. Smith related the following circumstance: I was standing, a few days since, on a platform in a central English town at the close of one of our meetings, when a Polish nobleman came up to me and said, "Here is a clergyman who wishes to speak to you." The clergyman said, "I have been preaching for thirteen years, and I now see I never believed a word I preached. What will the world say? It will call me a hypocrite. Oh, I am a lost soul." I left a mass of souls that evening rejoicing over their newly-found Saviour, but this minister remained in deep soul agony. In the morning he called upon me, and said, "Sir, I wish to unburden my mind to you; I should have taken my life, but that I feared to meet God." After he had told me his story, I said, "Well, I question if you ever knew the truth.—Did you ever know this truth—that that dark, lying, deceitful self, over which you are groaning because it is so bad (although it is a thousand times more wicked than

you are aware)—do you know that God has judged and condemned it, and that it has passed its doom? The Lord of glory bore your sin in his body on the tree, and, instead of being so sorrowful that your old self is no better, you should be giving God thanks that the old man is crucified, nailed to a tree, slain, dead. 'I am crucified with Christ.'" I put into his hand a copy of a little book I have just brought out, *Life Truths*, asking him to read it; and he left me. A few days after I found him at a meeting in another town, whither he had followed me; and when we were singing

"Happy day, happy day,  
When Jesus washed my sins away,"

his face was one of the most radiant of all; and afterwards he told us how the change was wrought: "I saw myself judged; I found myself on the other side of my doom, with the cross of Jesus between the broken law and me; and I have preached it to my people, for my heart spoke out of the abundance of its peace."

There can be no doubt of Mr. Smith's ministry being largely owned of God.—The substitution of the Lord Jesus, God's judgment of sin in the person of his dear Son, the immediateness and completeness of salvation on the awakened sinner believing in Jesus; these blessed doctrines he has powerfully realized in his own experience, and doubtless has been specially commissioned to preach to others. For nearly three years past Mr. Smith has been itinerating throughout the United Kingdom. In a few weeks he settles in Dublin, a place of worship having been built for him, capable of seating from three to four thousand people. He consequently does not expect again to visit London as he has done, so that these were farewell services. "One sorrows to leave scenes like these," said he in the course of the closing service; "we separate at night, but we shall meet at daybreak. We separate each to go on his beat, and to some it will be a lonely, and painful, and weary way; but we join at sunrise. It is now the world's day, but our night; but it is far spent, and our day is at hand. I charge you all to be out on your beat. The great Watchman says, 'Surely I come quickly.' Then will He wipe away the last tear, and then we shall