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I. PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL EYESIGHT (vs. 17, 18).

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, having the eyes of your heart enlightened.

Intellectual knowledge is not enough. The philosopher and the scientist labor hard and long to gather from nature its facts. They study the structure of the earth ; they turn their eyes to the heavens to discern the size, distance and movements of the stars, and tabulate the results for the use of mankind. But these are cold facts, they do not move the heart.

So we may study the great facts of God's purpose and plans in redemption, and accept them, and be able to explain them to others, but they do not bring forth fruit in our lives and experience. We have only seen them with the eyes of the mind. But when the Spirit of God opens the eyes of our heart and we begin to contemplate them from the standpoint of our spiritual nature, then "the *spirit* of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him," takes possession of us, and we have a realization of them in our experience. Without this, the great truths of grace soon lose their force, by reason of familiarity with them.

How often we read over the wonderful truths which in ages passed have stirred the souls of thousands upon thousands—truths which caused the martyrs to rejoice with exceeding joy in the midst of the fires of persecution, and yet they fail to move or touch us, even though we believe them thoroughly. Sinners become what we call