

goes among them, letting them know and see that He is supplied with various virtue to be used by them without reserve. And there is in this a glory that excelleth; so that the former has no glory by reason of it.

How should we bless Him for this display of Himself! It is the same God of love and power in both; but He has increased in the brightness of His manifestations.

The religious rulers found this way of Jesus to interfere with them. Their interest was to keep God and the people separate; for then they had hopes of being used themselves. Thus they were angry when the Lord said to the man, "Thy sins be forgiven thee." It was a great interference with them. It trespassed on their places. "Who can forgive sins but God only?"—and God was in heaven. The Son of man forgiving sins *on earth* was a sad disturbance of that by which they lived in credit and plenty in the world. But whether they received it or not, this was the way of the Son on earth. He dealt with our necessities in such wise as encouraged the happy, near and confident approach of all needy ones to Him. He did all to shew that He was a cheerful giver—nay more—that He gave Himself with His gift. For with His own hand, as we have seen, He brought the blessing home to every man's door.

It was therefore only the happy confidence of faith which fully met and refreshed His spirit—that faith which knew the title of a needy one to