

desire in humanity that He does not purpose to fulfill.

"My own dim life should teach me this,  
That life shall live forever more;  
Else Earth is darkness at the core  
And dust and ashes all that is."

We base our hope on the message of Jesus, 'tis true. But Jesus is a voice within us as well as without. And it is pleasing to know that the voice that once spoke in the being of the Son of man is but an echo of the voice that speaks to each of us. What Jesus did and taught our inner natures affirm.

Brethern, plant your souls in the eternal things of Spirit. Live to those higher laws with which God has invested your beings. And with David you must sing: "Hope thou in God." Moreover, if you live out the teachings of your inner natures, hearkening to the higher aspirations of the soul, the facts of the life of Jesus will need no intellectual proof. You will have the witness in yourselves, which is higher than any evidence of the intellect. A man can believe only as he lives.

Yes, but mark: This hope of David was based on his yearning, not for a mere abstract law, not for a worn tradition; but for the living, personal God. "My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God." Oh, somehow as we move amidst this world of shadows, we feel that we must lean on that boundless One, touched with a feeling of our infirmities. In the soul's less solemn hours, we may clutch at an abstraction; we may cling to tradition. But when the storm cloud lowers, we call for the

Master helmsman, the All Father, revealed in Jesus.

With such a hope, then, David rose to a more spiritual conception of God. "The Lord will command His loving kindness in the day time and in the night His song shall be with me and my prayer unto the God of my life." With such a hope, he would soon realize, that not in Jerusalem alone but in the desert as well he could worship his Maker; that not Jerusalem alone but all ground was holy in that it bore the stamp of Deity. With such a hope the past would merge into the future; the God who had led by the quiet waters and in the green pastures would still beckon to clearer waters and more spiritual landscapes. With such a hope nature would become invested with a new garment. The floods that echoed once the discord of his soul would speak to him now of harmony. With such a hope, the cold sympathy, the cruel taunts of humanity would be unheard. For above them all rang the loud, clear call: "Fear not thou who can but destroy the body; rather rejoice in Him who has created body and spirit." With such a hope his soul was anchored in the Eternal land of Spirit. Brethern, we are placed here to feel after God. If we are doing so it is well. Even in despair we cannot lose our hope. "The whole Creation groaneth and travaileth in pains." But Creation is saved by hope. For Creation is yearning for her God.