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from the ashes of the old, rejoicing in the finished work of Another, and exercising that faith in him which is the sole means of enjoying his precious merits. But soon this faith becomes itself the ground of his confidence; and he has built, out of his own believing frames and experiences, another nest, which must, like the former, be reduced to ashes. And so his faith is assailed and overthrown by temptation; and his assurance of its existence utterly lost. He seeks rest in this and that false expedient; but seeks it in vain. At last he makes the glorious discovery, that the ground of his hope lies not in his own faith, but in Christ alone; and that his finished work is at all times as open to his embrace as a sinner, as it is to his appropriation as a saint. And now at last he has found a sure refuge, and his nest is in the rock; of which no fire of divine wrath or condemning conscience shall dispossess him more. Would that the refuges of lies, which are so common amongst us, were utterly destroyed by the hail and fire of a general conviction; and that the church of God would rise ever fairer out of its own ashes; and learn the glorious lesson of sacrificing all else to retain Jesus only!

MATTHEW xvii. 6-8.

"And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, be not afraid. And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only."

Once more, and for the last time, we meet around the glorious scene on Tabor; and our hearts may well be saddened, as around the grave of a dear friend. For, through the power of faith to recall the dead to life, the Tishbite has become to us as one with whom we had lived for days and years in confiding intercourse. This, my friends, is the right use of imagination in the solemn matters of religion, it is to revoke what is fairest in the past, and to minister to faith in restoring it to us in the freshness of life. Henceforth the history of Elijah loses itself in that of One unspeakably greater than he; and he disappears a second time