

glorified. We live in the "Dispensation of the Spirit." To us and to our children are fulfilled the promises,—“I will pour water upon him that is thirsty and floods upon the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring,—I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh.” When John the Baptist went about the land of Judea shaking the hearts of the people with the call to repentance, he directed all eyes to the coming One who would “Baptize with the Holy Ghost and with fire.” And the ministry of Jesus was full of the promise of the Spirit. The “Living water,” which He offered to the woman at Jacob’s well, and afterwards to all the people on the “Great day of the feast,” was “The Spirit which they that believe on Him should receive.” It was one of the last themes that hung upon His lips as He stood within the shadow of the cross; and almost the first thing that He resumed upon His resurrection from the dead;—“The same day at evening” He breathed on His disciples and said unto them “Receive ye the Holy Ghost,”—that was the gentle zephyr which ere long waxed into the gust of Pentecost. Among the last words He spoke when about to assume His majesty and reign were these—“Behold I send the promise of my Father among you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high,”—“Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.” The mission of the Spirit was therefore no unexpected gift, and His advent in accordance with the promise was the coronation largess of the King who is now a “Priest upon His throne.”

The mission of the Spirit is in *answer to the prayer of Christ*. “I will pray the Father and He will give you another Comforter.” This prayer begun on earth is still carried on in heaven. He has taught us that the gift of the Holy Spirit comprehends the bestowment of all good—therefore He prays that it may be imparted to us. His words recorded by one Evangelist are—“How much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?”—while another actually reports them—“How much more shall your heavenly Father give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?” The Son prays and the Father, gives not because there is any reluctance,—for the Father loves the souls of men with a pitying tenderness far beyond our thought. What an encouragement for us to pray also, seeing that prayer is thus exalted and consecrated by the example of our Lord. Let us therefore “Draw near with true hearts in full assurance of faith,” seeing our feeble petitions are supported and presented by One whom the Father heareth always.

The mission of the Spirit is *from the Father and the Son*. In the economy of grace all things are of God. There is a Trinity of Persons; but the unity of the Godhead is represented by the Father. There is official subordination in the economy of redemption,—the Son is subject to the Father, and the Spirit is subject to the Father and the Son. Speaking of himself Jesus said, “The word that you hear is not mine but His that sent me,”—of the Spirit He said, “He shall not speak of Himself . . . He shall glorify Me, for He shall receive of mine and shall show it unto you.” The Son was sent by the Father,—and the Spirit is sent by the Father and the Son. “I will pray the Father and He shall give you another Comforter;”—“The Holy Ghost whom