

and thy glory, so as I have seen Thee in the Sanctuary?" He answers the question, "Because thy loving-kindness is better than life." It is, in the Temple of God, especially that we become experimentally acquainted with that loving-kindness. Here we have access to those blessed ordinances, which are designed to be means of grace to those who rightly use them. Here the gracious promise is fulfilled that wherever two or three are gathered together in the name of Christ, there He is in the midst of them. Here the careless are awakened, the ignorant directed into the narrow path, the mourner comforted with the consolations of Christ, and the established believer edified and animated in his difficult warfare. There is many a mind perplexed with passing events, many a heart that would sink overwhelmed by the sorrows of life, were it not for the strength imparted from above, within God's Temple; many a soul that has said with David, "When I thought to know this, it was too hard for me, until I went into the Sanctuary of God; then understood I the end of these men." My Brethren! if there be any of us, who within the limits of God's house have been brought to know our Saviour, if we have realized here a sense of his pardon; if we have felt our minds relieved from perplexity, our hearts comforted under affliction, strengthened for duty; in a word, if we have felt it good to be here, because while contemplating the wondrous works which the Lord our God has wrought for us, we have had given to us, either faith in His promises, or resignation to His will, or love to His commands, then have we realized within His Temple, the loving-kindness of the Lord.

For all these reasons then, let us think of that loving-kindness in the midst of His Temple, and let the recollections of the past week tend to deepen our impressions of gratitude, while we reflect upon that merciful Providence by which our Sanctuary has been preserved to us—a preservation enhanced by the very thought that it was effected through the ardent zeal, untiring energy, and undaunted courage of those who