

were hated, and stoned, and put in prison, and put to death, because they believed God, and had faith in his Word, that whoever will repent, and love Christ, shall be saved; and whoever will not, shall be lost for ever. It is the faith which led them to endure such sufferings, that leads good men now to go to the heathen, and preach to them, and die among them. It is faith in God that leads good men to preach, to have Bible Societies, and to make great efforts, and take great pains, to have all men every where know, and believe, and obey the Bible. It is this faith which leads the praying mother to come to the bed of her little child, and hear him say his prayers before he shuts his eyes in sleep. It is faith that comforts the dying mother as she leaves this world, and leaves her dear children behind without any mother. I once visited a dying mother, who had this faith in Christ; and after she had called her children around her bed, and had taken each one by the hand, and had given each her advice and her blessing, and had bidden them farewell, and was then too much exhausted to speak aloud,

"She made a sign  
 'To bring her babe; 'twas brought, and by her placed.  
 She looked upon its face, that neither smiled  
 Nor wept, nor knew who gazed upon it; and laid  
 Her hand upon its little breast, and sought  
 For it—with look that seemed to penetrate  
 The heavens—unutterable blessings: such  
 As God to dying parents only granted  
 For infants left behind them in the world.  
 'God bless my child!' we heard her say, and heard  
 No more. The angel of the covenant  
 Was come; and, faithful to his promise, stood,  
 Prepared to walk with her through death's dark vale  
 And now her eyes grew bright, and brighter still,—  
 'Too bright for ours to look upon, suffused  
 With many tears,—and closed without a cloud  
 'They set as sets the morning star, which goes  
 Not down behind the darkened west, nor hides  
 Obscured among the tempests of the sky,—  
 But melts away into the light of heaven!'"

### 3. Faith comforts us, and holds us up, in the time of trouble.

There are many times when we can have no help from any human friend. None but God can aid us. It was so with Noah, when the ark floated upon the great waters, and nobody but God could roll off these waters, and make the dry land appear. It was so with Daniel, when thrown among the fierce lions, and nobody could shut their mouths but God. It is so with every dying christian, whether he dies at home among his friends, or away from home among strangers, or alone where no one is with him. See what faith can do for a child, and in the most awful situation:—

"By a sudden burst of water into one of the Newcastle collieries, thirty-five men and forty-one lads were driven into a distant part of the pit, from which there was no possibility of return, until the water should be drawn off. While this was effecting, though all possible means were used, the whole number died, from starvation or suffocation. When the bodies were drawn up from the pit, seven of the youth were discovered in a cavern separate from the rest. Among these was one, of peculiarly moral and religious habits, whose daily reading the Sacred