

A SERMON.

PSALM XLVIII. 9.

"We have thought of thy loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of thy Temple."

HE who proposes to speak of the "loving-kindness" of GOD, has a vast subject before him. To treat of it in general terms is beneath its dignity; to enter into its details, seems to be an endless undertaking. Yet of that "loving-kindness," we ought perpetually both to think, and speak, for it is above us, around us, and within us. But if there be one place more than others, where especially we ought to do this, it is in God's Temple, where with peculiar clearness HE displays it to us, and enriches our souls with its communications. And have we not an imperative call to remember that loving-kindness in this place, to night, where we have so lately experienced the goodness of GOD, in the preservation of the very Temple in which we are now assembled? Surely the recollections of the past week point out to us emphatically our duty this evening, viz. to take up the holy Psalmist's words, and say, while both in Providence and Grace, we trace the evidences of divine mercy, "We have thought of thy loving-kindness O GOD, in the midst of thy Temple."

This Psalm appears to have been composed upon some joyous occasion, when a great deliverance had been effected for Jerusalem. But it looked beyond the literal Zion, and was designed, no doubt, to celebrate the glories of the Gospel Church. It foretels that the Church would be "beautiful for situation," being the site which God had