

God guides, blessed be God ! No truth appeals more nearly to us at the New Year season, than this, "If thy presence go not up with us, carry us not up hence." "And He said, 'My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.'" As we look back over life we see many a turning where we would have guided otherwise, but we now can say, "He hath done all things well."

" And when this passing world is done,
When has sunk yon glaring sun,
When we stand with Christ in glory,
Looking o'er life's finished story,
Then, Lord, shall we fully know,
Not till then, how much we owe."

Throughout this year our God shall supply this your need.

We come now to the second group of man's needs, the Spiritual. There are those who deny we have such needs. Blind moles ! who fail to see what every heathen altar taught, what all crudest superstitions and loftiest philosophies prove, to say naught of God's inspired word. Prodigal Sons ! who, when the time of famine comes, assert there is no Father's home !

We need deliverance from guilt. Out of the dawn of human history comes the voice of Job, "How can a man be just with God ?" an agonized cry, echoed and re-echoed in tragedy and hymn, surging under the mournfulness of man's life as the deep bass of the ocean underlies all other sounds. Bunyan cried in agony, until men thought him mad, beneath the burden which he afterwards placed in symbol upon his Pilgrim's back. Burns, solemnized by the prospect of death, utters his own and universal experience :

" Is it departing pangs my soul alarms ?
Or death's unlovely, dreary, dark abode ?
For guilt, for guilt, no terrors are in arms,
I tremble to approach an angry God."

Man appears in the temple of his Maker with the Publican's cry, "God be merciful to me, a sinner."

But how shall such a need be met ? A question asked in