

turnest away from Me? How is it thou countest Me thine enemy? Come and let us reason together; bring forth thy strong reasons for rejecting Me. My love to thee is written in blood. I thought about thee when thou wast in the house of bondage; I saw thee in thy shame and nakedness, and threw over thee the skirts of My righteousness. I call upon the heavens and the earth to bear witness of My sincerity and attachment to thee, and I challenge Satan to disprove the fervour of My affections. Come unto Me, and I will lead thee into green pastures, and show thee where I make My flock to rest. If thou wilt enter into a covenant with Me, I will be thine forever. I will fight thy battles and conquer thine enemies. When foes would invade thy dwelling, I will smite them with blindness, so that they shall not be able to find the door of thy peaceful retreat. My Spirit shall guide thee; My providence shall defend thee; My angels shall guard thee; My arms shall succour thee, and when thy flesh and heart shall fail, I will be the strength of thy heart and thy portion forever, and make thee heir of an inheritance that is incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away. What sayest thou?"

I stood on the banks of a stream; the waters flowed rapidly by, and no power could stop them. Standing on one bank was a man who wore a shining crown and royal robes. But, oh! upon His radiant brow were scars as if a crown of thorns had some time or other rested there; and on His outstretched hands