

Notes of Sermons Preached by Pastor Henry Haddow at Brockham Green  
on Lord's Day May 21st 1911

Morning Sermon

*A wise man's heart is at his right hand: but a fool's heart at his left. (Ecclesiastes 10:2)*

I wonder how many of us have known what it is to work with all our power, and grieve that we could work no more. God's people are created *unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10)* And it is no small mercy to know in any measure what it is to walk in them, and in walking in them to have a single eye to God's glory. *In the Lord shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory. (Isaiah 45:25)* O what an unspeakable mercy to know this! God will be glorified in His people, and His people shall glorify Him. It comes very close. Does God glory in me, and do I glory in Him? Am I a living branch of the heavenly Vine? Do I bring forth fruit? Am I fruitful in every good word and work? *Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples. (John 15:8)*

Are you willing to pay the price, and be dealt with as God deals with His people, that fruit may be brought forth? Are you willing to part with right eyes and right hands for Christ's sake, for the gospel's sake? Have you ever asked the Lord to deal with you as is pleasing in His sight, and as shall redound to His honour and His glory? It is a great thing to be saved. I want to get to heaven, and I want to know God's salvation, and taste it, and handle it, and enjoy it. I know that at His right hand there are pleasures for ever more. I want to live well, and to walk well, and to be led into the deep things of God, and to have the things of God made known to me. And I want so to live that others may see my good works, and glorify God. It is a great mercy to have grace given us to let our light shine before men, that others may see our good works, and take knowledge of us.

I sometimes tremble lest there should be a stinking savour about me. You may be left to sin, and how it mars all your profession! *Dead flies cause the ointment...to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour. (Ecclesiastes 10:1)* You may be in reputation for wisdom and honour, but you may be left to commit some acts of sin that will cause you to go groaning to the grave, and for persons to speak against you. Look at David, and Solomon, and others we might mention. O it is a mercy to be kept by the power of God, and to be kept in the fear of the Lord, and for the fear of the Lord to be in exercise, which is *an unctuous light to all that's right, and a bar to all that's wrong.*

Jabez prayed, and God heard his prayer. He prayed that he might be kept from evil, that it might not grieve him, and that the Lord might enlarge his coast. And the Lord granted his requests. Have you ever prayed after this manner? I wish I was a praying man. I sometimes wonder as to whether I have ever prayed. I do not believe that the man who can always pray has ever prayed. The Holy Spirit helps the infirmities of those that know what real prayer is. *Pray without ceasing. Praying men ought always to pray and not to faint.* But according to one's feelings, we wonder whether we have ever prayed.

*O do I ever pray?  
And do the wishes of my heart  
Go with the words I say?*

I am a living witness, and some of you are, that every breath of real prayer comes from God, and all real prayer goes to God.

*Prayer was appointed to convey  
The blessings God designs to give.  
Long as they live should Christians pray;  
For only while they pray they live. (Joseph Hart)*

Sometimes you do not seem to live, and you say, How can I *live at this poor dying rate?* I said to a person in writing last Friday, I go into the pulpit dark and dead in soul feeling. But we find the Lord pours upon us the spirit of prayer and supplication. I was glad to hear you begin the service this morning with the hymn: *Our springs are all in Thee*. O it makes Christ exceeding precious.

Now, I want to speak to you this day of the wise man mentioned in our text, and the fool that is mentioned. You see, we have two characters here, the wise man and the fool. And the heart of the wise man is as his right hand, but the heart of the fool is as his left. We know that naturally the heart in our bodies, which causes the blood to flow through our veins, is the same in the wise man as in the fool, speaking so far as the wisdom of this world is concerned. We are told that the heart inclines more to the left in the bodies of all mankind. But there are fools and wise men in a profession, and I want to deal with our subject as it respects professors, persons who profess to know godliness, and the things of God.

There are in profession, then, those that are wise, and those that are fools. And I hope that the Lord will so help me, and lead me, so that we may know where we are, whether we are such fools as are mentioned in the words of our text, or the wise whose hearts are at God's right hand. It is no small mercy to know wisdom. *Wisdom, we are told, is the principle thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.* (Proverbs 4:7) Well, when the Lord works in the heart of a sinner, he is brought to believe that wisdom is the principle thing, and his heart is set upon getting wisdom. He begins to pray for wisdom.

*If Solomon for wisdom prayed,  
The Lord before had made him wise. (John Newton)*

There may be a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, but *Wherefore is there a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, seeing he hath no heart to it?* (Proverbs 17:16) You know, friends, it comes very close. Fools may have a price in their hands to get wisdom, and they may go to wisdom, but their heart is not after it. They do not want the grace of God though they may go with a price in their hand. They are not born of God; they are natural men and women, and they do not want wisdom, for Jesus Christ is the wisdom of God.

Now, the man that really wants wisdom has a new heart; he is born of God. He has a clean heart, and his heart is fixed on wisdom. *My heart is fixed,* says the Psalmist. (Psalm 57:7) And this person (I say it with reverence) cannot be put off without wisdom. So this person comes to the throne of grace for wisdom. He does not come as the fool with a price in his hand. No, he comes without money and without price. He comes just as he is, and cries for wisdom, and lifts up his voice for understanding. O Lord, give me wisdom. I am a fool. Do make me wise unto salvation. This is the man God has taken in hand, and that man will have wisdom. His heart is set on Jesus Christ, who is the wisdom of God. This man seeks after wisdom, and for a spiritual understanding in the things of God. O my friends, it is a mercy if you know anything of going to the throne of grace, seeking for wisdom, and seeking Jesus Christ. He is the wisdom of God, and He is made unto the people wisdom.

Now the man that is thus wrought upon by the power of the Holy Ghost realises that wisdom indeed is the principle thing. This is the principle thing – to be made wise, and to inherit Christ. Christ is the one thing needful, the chiefest among ten thousand, and the altogether lovely. This man lacks wisdom, and he longs and begs for wisdom. Come friends, have you gone this way? Am I tracing out the path you have known something of, or are you knowing it this morning? Is this what you want? Wisdom. Then the Lord has engraven it on your heart that He is the one thing needful. O then, you do want Him, all your desire is before Him, and your groaning is not hid from Him.

*To praying souls He always grants  
More than they can express. (John Newton)*

So the Lord Jesus Christ gives such to realise that He is their wisdom. O what a mercy to be made wise, and to be among those that are spoken of in our text as wise! Wise persons have Christ. Wise virgins have the grace of the Spirit, and the graces of the Spirit are in exercise from time to time in them, and therefore they seek after right things, after spiritual blessings, and long after these things, and they long for the Lord to reveal the deep things of God to them. *Make to me* – how often has this been the breathing of my soul during the last week:

*O make to me salvation known,  
And witness with the blood. (Charles Wesley)*

Every soul that has been made wise unto salvation is after the things of God. You may put the question to your own soul, as to whether you are after the things of God. If you are made wise unto salvation it must be so.

In the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of *Matthew* you read of the virgins. Five were wise and five were foolish. The wise had oil in their lamps – they were after Christ, and they wanted to be found in Christ, and to receive from the fulness of His grace. It is all laid up in Him, and of His fulness they come day by day to receive. *John* says: *Of His fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. (ch.1:16)* A wise man, then, is a gracious man, and has Christ in him the hope of glory. Christ is to the wise man wisdom, sanctification and redemption.

The wise man is wrought upon by the Holy Ghost, and is solemnly exercised concerning real things. Now come, how have you been exercised during the week concerning these things? O, I say, it is a solemn thing to be a professor, and it is an unspeakable mercy to be a possessor. Every possessor finds, shall I say, the Lord to work mightily in him. Perhaps some of you will be cut off if I say this. Well, I will go so far as this, and say there are moments when every possessor does. We painfully learn in the school of Christ that God does not do this every moment, and thus in our flesh we do no good thing. We need the quickening of the Holy Ghost. Well then, a wise person will be after these things. Is it not so in the Word of God? *Give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:10,11)*

The wise man will seek to be found walking in the fear of the Lord. He would give diligence, he is made wise, and he sees that godliness is profitable. It has the promise of the life that now is, and that which is to come, and he seeks to know more of the grace of God. He says, “There are blessed things in Thy Word concerning the wise. Let me know these things for myself.” *The wise shall inherit glory. (Proverbs 3:35)* And then says the wise man in whom the Lord is working, “May I inherit glory, for Thy Word declares the wise shall inherit glory, and no good thing wilt Thou withhold from them.”

*O may I live to reach the place  
Where He unveils His lovely face,  
Where all His beauties you behold,  
And sing His name to harps of gold! (Isaac Watts)*

“O,” says this man, “do let me inherit the things the wise inherit.” God will do great things for those who are made wise unto salvation, and make His work good in their souls’ experience, though everything may seem to be against the fulfilment of the promise, for *all the promises of God are Yea, and Amen.*

And there will be this longing after the things spoken of in the Word of God concerning the wise. As the Wise Man says: *The heart will be applied to know wisdom. (see Ecclesiastes 8:16)* When do you and I apply our hearts to know wisdom? It is all of God that we apply our hearts to know wisdom. The Lord Jesus Christ is wisdom. I do feel most solemnly that this is heart work. The heart must be

applied to these things. It is a wise heart that is engaged in these things. The Lord searches the heart, and tries the reins of the children of men. (*see Jeremiah 17:10*) Do you know anything of the Lord searching your heart? And can you sometimes take courage that the Lord knows your heart? Well, sometimes it has filled me with dismay to know that God knows my heart. At other times it has encouraged me that the Lord knows my heart and my desires after Him. Yes, the Lord knows your heart, and you can sometimes appeal unto Him that you do want to know Him, and the things of God, and a seeking after Him, and the heart is fixed on Jesus Christ.

*My treasure is Thy precious blood;  
Fix there my heart (says the wise man) and for the rest,  
Under Thy forming hands, my God,  
Give me that frame which Thou lik'st best. (Joseph Hart)*

There are great things spoken of in the Word of God concerning the wise. O what is in reserve for them that are made wise unto salvation! The Word of God declares it, that they shall inherit glory. *Eye hath not see, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. (1 Corinthians 2:9)* Now, when God makes known these things in the soul, what carefulness is wrought in us, O what earnestness! How earnest and diligent the soul is! Do not say this is legality to seek after this manner, and if you say so, would to God there was more legality. It is recorded in the Word of God that a wise man's eyes are in his head, and the wise man uses them. The wise man is exhorted to walk well, redeeming the time, for the days are evil. Is there not a needs-be for such a word of exhortation? The fool walks in darkness and stumbles here and there, because there is no light in him. But the wise, he seeks to be found walking in the light, and for his path to be the path of the just, as a shining light which shines more and more unto to perfect day.

I wish I had more grace, and then I should be more in earnest. O we do lack grace! He giveth more grace to the lowly. The wise man is a lowly and a humble man. God gives *more grace...resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble. (James 4:6)* *Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: casting all your care upon Him: for He careth for you. (1 Peter 5:6,7)* Is it not sweet when you realise that God cares for you, and that His thoughts are thoughts of peace towards you to give you an expected end? (*see Jeremiah 29:11*) O for grace to serve Him!

We are told that the words of the wise man are gracious words. When are the words of the wise man's mouth gracious? Well, when the Lord pours in, friends. Out of the abundance of the heart man speaks, and he will speak right things concerning the Lord. Sometimes you hear persons speak, and you say there is grace in the lip. Perhaps they are not willing to acknowledge that they have a grain of grace, but you know that grace is in the lips, and you feel the words of their mouth are gracious. But the lip of a fool will swallow up himself. *The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness: and the end of his talk is mischievous madness. A fool also is full of words: a man cannot tell what shall be: and what shall be after him, who can tell him? (Ecclesiastes 10:13,14)*

O my friends, it is a mercy, then, to be among those that are made wise unto salvation, and to know the salvation of God, and to be formed for the Lord, to show forth His praise. Amen.

#### Afternoon Sermon

*A wise man's heart is at his right hand: but a fool's heart is at his left. (Ecclesiastes 10:2)*

We tried to speak a few things this morning concerning this wise man. It is not every one that can be said to be wise in the things of God. It is no small mercy to be made wise. Those that God makes wise seek after salvation, and they lift up their voice for understanding. Their hearts are fixed on

wisdom, and they want understanding. It is a mercy when the Lord does bring, by His almighty power, the sinner to feel his need of wisdom. Until God makes a man wise, he does not seek after wisdom. Wisdom is the principle thing, and this is what he seeks after – the Person of the Son of God, who is Wisdom.

Now, when God makes a man wise to seek wisdom, nothing but wisdom will satisfy him. He will beg of the Lord to give him a right understanding, and to reveal to him the deep things of the kingdom of God.

*Assure my conscience of her part  
In the Redeemer's blood;  
And bear the witness with my heart,  
That I am born of God. (Isaac Watts)*

This man will seek to build upon the Person of the Son of God, and the man that builds upon Jesus Christ is a wise man. You may test yourselves as to whether you have wisdom. If He has made you wise, you seek to build upon a good foundation. Jesus Christ said: *Whosoever heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man. (Matthew 7:24)* This wise man builds upon the Rock of eternal ages, and the gates of hell cannot prevail against it.

*Every prop will, first or last,  
Sink or fail, but Jesus Christ;  
On this sure foundation stone  
Let me build and rest alone. (John Berridge)*

Here the soul rests, and the Holy Ghost places this man upon Jesus Christ. If you are God's building, you are *built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone; in whom all the building fitly framed together growth unto an holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation through the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:20-22)* O what a mercy to be brought by the Spirit of God to build upon Jesus Christ, and to realise that we are builded up by God Himself on our most holy faith.

In this time state there will be a stretching after a greater knowledge of the Person of the Son of God, and this will often be the substance of your cry: That I might know Him, and increase in the knowledge of Him. O what an unspeakable mercy to be made wise unto salvation, and to be brought to receive the Person of the Son of God as our wisdom, and to walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him. There are numbers in a profession who are not wise – they are fools. They walk in darkness, and in the darkness of death, without God and without hope in the world, and their hearts are at His left hand. Their hearts are not at God's right hand, where the hearts of the wise are. Jesus Christ is at the right hand of the Father. God raised Him up from the dead, and He is set down at the right hand of the Father, far above all principalities and powers.

O my friends, may you and I indeed realise that we are among the righteous as we try to open up the subject this afternoon, and to notice that the heart of the wise man is at His right hand. We do well to test ourselves. There is such a thing as spiritual reasoning as to whether we really belong to those that are made wise unto salvation. This is heart work. Where the heart is the treasure will be also. If Jesus Christ is our treasure, He will have our heart. Sometimes I have been enabled to say – and no doubt some of you have –

*My treasure is Thy precious blood;  
Fix there my heart, and for the rest,  
Under Thy forming hands, my God,  
Give me that frame which Thou lik'st best. (Joseph Hart)*

The heart of the wise man is at God's right hand where Christ is. The apostle says: *If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth. (Colossians 3:1,2)* My heart is at God's right hand where Christ is, if I have been made wise unto salvation. If you have been made wise unto salvation where Christ is, there your heart is, and there your affections are. Are our affections set upon Christ? Has Christ got our hearts? He has got the hearts of those that are made wise unto salvation. He comes, and He says: Son, give Me thine heart, and I will give you a kingdom.

And the Lord deals with us sometimes in such a way and manner as to almost drive us to despair. Some of you may know what this is, and you have prayed to God. What have you prayed to God for? *That you might grow in every grace, and seek more earnestly His face. (see John Newton 295)* God has *taught me thus to pray*, and it is a good thing where God so works in the hearts of those that are made wise unto salvation to know more of Him. *I asked the Lord that I might grow...in grace*, and in the knowledge of Him. You would not do this if God had not made you wise unto salvation. No, the fool does not pray after this manner. But the wise man does, and he is willing, if I may so put it, to pay the cost, and to part with right hands and right eyes that his affections and his heart may be on things above.

The Lord deals most solemnly with His own. Some of you have known something of God's dealings. You have sought after the things of this life, and you have gone after other lovers, it may be, and you have forsaken the fountain of living waters, and hewn unto yourselves cisterns that can hold no water. But God has dealt solemnly with you, and made you cry unto Him that He will deal with you in such a way and manner, so that you may hold the things of life with a very loose hand. Blessed is that man whom the Lord chasteneth, and deals with as He deals with His own. I have often asked the Lord to do this, even of late. Chastisement is needful. I sometimes believe, nay, I am positive, that there is a needs-be that the Lord should deal with me thus, and draw my heart and affections to Him. *Lord, in trouble have they visited Thee. (Isaiah 26:16)* When did you visit God? They poured out a prayer when God's chastening was upon them. When would you have poured out a prayer unless God had dealt solemnly with you? Why, it is in afflictions and chastenings that you cry unto the Lord. It is a mercy, friends, to know this path. Though it is painful to flesh and blood, faith approves it well.

*This only leads to endless day;  
All others lead to hell. (John Berridge)*

There is no other way to heaven but this way. Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life, and He will have our hearts and our affections. He will draw our hearts and affections to Him, and when He does this, then our hearts are at His right hand.

We told you this morning that our hearts, that is our natural hearts in our bodies that beat and cause the blood to flow through our veins, are in each man alike. But speaking of the things of God, those that are made wise unto salvation, their hearts are at His right hand. Christ is at His Father's right hand, and our hearts are where Christ is. He is our treasure, and He has our hearts, and our hearts are set upon those things which are at His right hand. *Length of days is in (His) right hand, and in (His) left hand riches and honour. (Proverbs 3:16)* The fool is after riches and honour, but the wise man's heart is in His right hand, and after length of days. *In Thy presence is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for ever-more. (Psalm 16:11)* And the heart of the wise man is at His right hand, where there is life for ever-more. O my friends, it is a mercy if we can indeed put our hands on our hearts, and in the sight of a heart-searching and rein-trying God this afternoon, calling upon Him to witness that our hearts are at His right hand.

All blessings come from His right hand. All spiritual blessings come from God's right hand, from the Person of the Son of God. O my friends, it is a mercy to have our affections on things above, and for our heart to be at God's right hand. Do you know what it is to wait upon Him, and to receive from His

fulness? *Of His fulness have all we received, says the apostle, and grace for grace. (John 1:16)* It is no small mercy to receive from the fulness of Christ, and grace for grace. It is grace that makes us feel our need of grace. And we come to Him for grace that we might receive more grace. It is His prerogative to give grace, and He gives it. Our hearts are set upon receiving grace from Him. There is a fulness of grace in Jesus Christ, and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. The wise, they want this grace, and their hearts are set upon receiving this grace. Nothing but grace will satisfy the wise, and they would grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The heart of the wise, then, is at His right hand, where there are pleasures for ever-more. It is a sweet thought to my soul oftentimes, that if my heart is there I shall soon be there. As the Lord liveth, if our heart is there, we shall soon be there. If your heart is at God's right hand, your heart is fixed on Jesus Christ. If you cannot do without Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ will not do without you. *Father, I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am. I will come again, He says, and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there ye may be also. (John 17:24 & 14:3)* His servants shall serve Him where He is in His temple, and they shall be led by Him to the fountain of living waters, and all tears shall be wiped from their eyes. There is something in reserve for the wise, and it is recorded in this blessed Book. *The wise shall inherit glory. (Proverbs 3:35)* They shall be received into His presence, and shall see Him as He is, and gaze upon Him throughout the countless ages of a never-ending eternity. O has He made me wise? Is my heart fixed upon Him? Can I say, and can you say, *Whom have I in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside Thee. (Psalm 73:25)* If so, you need not envy the fool, who is looking out for riches and honour.

There are many fools to be found in the professing church, and they are not looking for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but they are looking for riches and honour. They would receive the things of God's left hand, if I may so speak. They are seeking God's providential mercies. But the wise man would not be put off with God's left hand blessings. I have sometimes begged of the Lord not to let me be satisfied with the blessing of His providence. Now, God does, it is true, give the blessings of His providence to fools, to men who have never been taught of Him, and never been enlightened by Him. They know nothing of the power of God's grace. He causes them to roll in temporal blessings, and you will find that men have prospered temporarily. The Lord showers His left hand blessings upon men naturally. Even the wise, whose hearts are at His right hand, and who in their right mind would have them there, they begin to envy those that God prospers, it may be, in the things of providence. Sometimes you find the wicked in great power. Men who are destitute of the grace of God, though they have the lamp of profession, they prosper in the things of this life, and everything they put their hand to prospers. God gives them, so to speak, what they ask – of left hand blessings.

After all, there is no real needs-be that the wise should envy them. Look at the rich man whose fields brought forth plenty. His heart was not at God's right hand. He said: *I will pull down my barns, and build greater...I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. (Luke 12:18,19)* Here is a man whose heart is at His left hand, and he has received providential mercies. But he does not, you see, acknowledge God in these mercies. He is going to take it easy. But there is not much life in reserve for him. God says: *Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? (v.20)*

Again, Asaph, he was envious at the prosperity of the wicked. *(Psalm 73:3)* Why should Asaph, and you, child of grace, be envious at the prosperity of the wicked? They have their position in this life, their god is in their belly, they are earthly, sensual, devilish. Why should the man whose heart is at His right hand, and who has heaven in reserve for him, be envious at the prosperity of the wicked? But it is so, it has ever been so. *Jeremiah said: Righteous art Thou, O LORD...yet let me talk with Thee of Thy judgements: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? (ch.12:1)* Many of God's [people have been here, but let God take us for one moment into the sanctuary, and see their end, we shall not envy their prosperity for long. Asaph said: *Surely Thou didst set them in slippery places: Thou*

*castedst them down to destruction. (v.18)* The wicked have their position here. But the Lord's people do not have their position in this life, in a sense, for God is their portion. *The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in Him (Lamentations 3:24)* God's people are His portion. If I possess Jesus Christ, then I have everything, and I am rich to all the intents of bliss. Since Thou, O God, art mine, I have no reason to envy the wicked, who have their portion in this life. *Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. (Luke 16:25)* If their hearts are in His right hand:

*Comforts eternal they shall prove,  
And dwell for ever in His love. (Samuel Medley)*

O for more grace to leave all in the Lord's hands, as far as the blessings of His providence are conceived. Mark this: God has promised that His people shall have bread and water; He will provide for them. He has not promised to shower honours into their laps, but He has promised to give them food convenient, and to supply their providential needs, and, having food and raiment, it is a mercy to be therewith content. *We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. (1 Timothy 6:7)* *Naked, says holy Job, came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. (ch.1:21)* The wise man looks to the Lord to bless him with the blessings of His grace, but the heart of the fool is set upon riches and honour, and to heap together what he can here, not knowing what will become of what he has gained.

I look back many years ago to my dear master – I am not ashamed to call him Master. He got it into his head that he was a poor man, but he died worth £6,000. That dear man – for I loved him – was taken after three days' illness. If he had been spared, no doubt things would have been different, even so far as the poor man in the pulpit is concerned. But that we must leave; *the lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD. (Proverbs 16:33)* This dear man, he had a profligate son, and he was abroad, but he came back to England to take his share under his father's will. But it was soon gone. The last I herd of him was that he had to pay £1,500 in the divorce court. O friends, it is a mercy to have the grace of God, and to be content with such things as we have.