

Notes of Sermons Preached by Pastor Henry Haddow at Brockham Green
on Lord's Day March 12th 1911

Morning Sermon

My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness and Thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof. I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only. (Psalm 71:15,16)

It pleased the Lord to teach David in early life, so that when he was old and grey-headed, he could appeal unto the Lord: *O God, Thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared Thy wondrous works. Now also when I am old and gray-headed, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed Thy strength unto this generation, and Thy power to every one that is to come. (v.17,18)* God never forsakes His people in old age. He cannot forsake them. I speak it with reverence – He cannot forsake them. He has pledged His word, His oath. His promise is at stake: *I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (Hebrews 13:5)* They may think God has left them and forsaken them, and they cry: *Is His mercy clean gone for ever? Will He be favourable no more?* Even as the psalmist said – until God stopped him. He said: *This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High. (Psalm 77:7-10)* God is faithful. He will never forsake the works of His own hands. *The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me...forsake not the works of Thine own hands,* says the psalmist. *(Psalm 138:8)* *They that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee: for Thou, Lord, hast not forsaken hem that seek Thee. (Psalm 9:10)*

O it will be a mercy to get to heaven. It is a mercy to be in the school of Christ, and to be among that number which God is teaching. None teaches like Him; He teaches to profit. If you are being taught of God, you will often call upon Him: *Show me Thy ways, O Lord; teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me. (Palm 25:4,5)* And lead me in the way of life. The Lord leads such by His blessed Spirit unto the mystery of Christ. It is a mercy to know the mystery of Christ in any measure. And it is an unspeakable mercy to be enabled to use such language as we have been constrained to read by way of text: *My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness and Thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof.*

In the 14th verse the psalmist has given utterance to such language as this: *But I will hope continually, and will yet praise Thee more and more. My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness and Thy salvation all the day: for I know not the numbers thereof.* It might be rendered: *Salvation.* If he is speaking of his sins, he is speaking of them as a multitude, but here he says: *I know not the numbers thereof* – that is, of God's mercy and goodness towards him, because *they are more than the hairs of my head. (Psalm 40:12)* He could not reckon them up. *I will go, then, in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only.* It will begin in time, and it will go throughout eternity. Some say it will be too short. It will be long enough for me, and for the family of God, for it will never end. In speaking of God's righteousness, of God's salvation, it will last for ever. The blessing of the Lord's people will never come to an end. They will, throughout the countless ages of eternity, as we noticed last Lord's Day, ascribe *glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever* unto the Lamb.

Now the psalmist speaks of God's righteousness, and God's salvation. I want to speak to you some few things, as the Lord may be pleased to lead me by His blessed Spirit this morning, concerning God's righteousness, and God's salvation. It is no small mercy to be brought to a solemn concern to know God's righteousness and salvation. And it is an unspeakable mercy, friends, to be brought savingly to know God's righteousness, and God's salvation, and to speak as in the language of our text: *My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness and Thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof. I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only.* O that my mouth was continually engaged in speaking of God's righteousness,

and of God's salvation, and that my mouth was filled with His praise, His honour, all the day! Would that my tongue would talk of His righteousness all the day long, as the psalmist speaks in the 35th Psalm: *My tongue shall speak of Thy righteousness and of Thy praise all the day long. (v.28)* Out of the abundance of the heart his mouth would speak of God's righteousness. It is one thing to speak of God's righteousness and salvation without a saving knowledge of it, and another to speak of it having a saving knowledge of it. *A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. (Matthew 12:35)* *My tongue is the pen of a ready writer. (Psalm 45:1)*

God's righteousness and God's salvation. The Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to work out a robe of righteousness, and to bring in everlasting righteousness. We want to speak of this righteousness which the Lord Jesus Christ wrought out, and brought in, and a doctrine which is imputed. This is a doctrine which is made detestable to heaps of professors – they hate the doctrine of imputed righteousness. They say it is impossible for any person to be righteous in the righteousness of another. I remember many years ago being taken to task for preaching this doctrine in Tamworth Road Croydon pulpit. He was *made sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21)* Our sins were placed to His account, and His righteousness to our account.

*In Him the Father never saw
The least transgression of His law. (William Tucker)*

He brought in everlasting righteousness. *This is His name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. (Jeremiah 23:6)* Well, one person who professed to be a collegian took me to task for preaching this doctrine. "I ought to know," he said, "I am a Bible student, and have been to college." I said, "You may be, but unless this righteousness is imputed to you, you will be damned." *All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. (Isaiah 64:6)* I remember telling the friends in the evening that this man had taken me to task, and I said, "If I made myself vile this morning in preaching imputed righteousness, I will make myself ten times more vile tonight."

*Righteousness within thee rooted
May appear to take thy part;
But let righteousness imputed
Be the breastplate of thy heart. (Joseph Hart)*

When a sinner is really convinced that he has no righteousness, that he is filthy, and that in his flesh dwelleth no good thing, then he is exercised to know how God can be just, and a justifier of such a guilty wretch as he knows himself to be. I say, Knows himself to be, because God has convinced him of having broken God's righteous law, and all His righteous, just commands. He knows he has no righteousness. He would as soon trust the devil for his righteousness. He puts his hand to his lips, and cries as the leper, "Unclean, unclean. What must I do?" Ah friends, this man knows that all his righteousnesses are as filthy rags, and as an unclean thing. O my dear hearer, is this your spot? Do you know what it is to realise that you are a filthy creature, and that you could not purchase one good thought if it would bring heaven to you? You read *Romans chapter 3* – how the apostle sets forth the ruined state man is in, and how blessedly he speaks of the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ: *Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. (v.25,26)*

The Lord Jesus Christ is the righteousness of His people, and He does bring it near. Do you know what it is to long for Him to bring it near? Surely those that long for Him to bring it near say: *In the Lord have I righteousness and strength. (Isaiah 45:24)* God will bring it near. *Hearken unto Me, ye stout-hearted, that are far from righteousness. And what has God to say? I bring near My righteousness; it shall not be far off, and My salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in*

Zion for Israel My glory. (Isaiah 46:12,13) God will bring every seeking soul to know His righteousness, and they that seek His salvation shall His salvation see.

If you are longing for righteousness, how blessed! Blessed soul that hungers for righteousness, for the Lord gives it. It is the Word of God Himself: *They shall be filled. (Matthew 5:6)* God will bring near His righteousness, and God will cover you with His righteousness. How sweet these words were years ago to my soul, and also to some in this house of prayer:

*And, lest the shadow of a spot
Should on my soul be found,
He took the robe the Saviour wrought,
And cast it all around. (Isaac Watts)*

O what it is to be favoured with the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ!

My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness. And this is the man who will show it forth, and speak of it. This man or woman will say: *Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what He hath done for my soul. (Psalm 66:16)*

*Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head. (Count Zinzendorf)*

My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness – and this soul will speak of God’s righteousness, and of the Lord as his only hope, his only refuge. Have you no other hope or refuge to look to?

O my friends, do think of it. *This is the name whereby she shall be called. The LORD our righteousness. (Jeremiah 33:16)* I cannot set it forth. I have quoted the words to you. Here is the bride taking the name of the bridegroom. The salvation of Christ is the salvation of God, and as Christ is righteousness, the church, the beloved, is righteousness. We mention the righteousness of God in Him, but we cannot re-plan it. It is a mystery which angels long to look into, and which my soul desires to look into. Does your soul long to look into the mystery? I sometimes repeat the words, and I have done so coming here today: “O the mystery of Christ! O the mystery of godliness!”

The Lord Jesus Christ, then, is the righteousness of His people. He makes them to know it, and to rejoice in it. One branch of His righteousness is the judgement which He executes upon the ungodly. *He executeth righteousness and judgement for all that are oppressed. (Psalm 103:6)* Not only did He do this for Israel, but He brought them out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and an outstretched arm. He made known His ways unto Moses, and His acts unto the children of Israel. You think of His mighty acts. What was there that God did not do in bringing them into the land of Canaan? I believe those that know Jesus Christ as their righteousness will know something from time to time of what it is for God to execute righteousness and judgement for them from time to time. The psalmist says: *Mine eyes fail for Thy salvation, and for the word of Thy righteousness. (Psalm 119:123)*

All God’s promises will be fulfilled. The word which the Lord hath spoken, He will make it good, whether it be in the destruction of thy enemies, or in grace, or in providence. *He is faithful that promised. (Hebrews 10:23)* Those of you that have known His righteousness, have you not sometimes found you have longed for Him to come and help you, and you have felt, as you have waited for the Lord:

*He tarries oft till men are faint,
And comes at evening late. (John Berridge)*

But He will come. Has the Lord spoken to you: *As thy days thy strength shall be, or: I will be with thee?* Have you been brought into such spots and places, and for the Lord's word to be made good to you? The Lord's people long for Him to make good the word He has spoken.

I was reading a little piece yesterday concerning Robert Glover of Coventry. This man was sentenced to die a martyr's death, to be burned at the stake. And the poor man was in darkness. But as soon as he came in sight of the faggots burning, he said, "He is come, He is come!" Then he exhibited no fear of the cruel death that awaited him. His eyes waited for God's salvation, and for the word of His righteousness, and he said, "He is come!" O if I could only put into words what I have felt, it would be something like this: What God has promised you He will make it good. His faithfulness is established in the very heavens. When He makes good the promise, you will say in the language of our text: *My mouth shall shew forth Thy praise.* Your mouth speaks of the righteous acts of God, and of the fulfilment of the word in your soul's experience. When God works deliverance for you, you wait for it, that is, you wait for the Lord to make good to you the word He has spoken.

I was glad to hear you singing this morning:

*Thus far my God has led me on,
And made His truth and mercy known. (John Fawcett)*

Do you think that He has led you thus far to leave you to sink? No, they are the words of His righteousness, and He will make it good in thy soul's experience. You may indeed exclaim:

*He who has helped me hitherto,
Will help me all my journey through. (John Newton)*

And He will daily give you help to *raise Ebenezers to His praise.*

Why do the wicked prosper? Ah, sometimes not one thing the child of God puts his hand to prospers, and he *wonders where the scene will end, when every day new straits attend.* (Fawcett) But it is a solemn thing to be a wicked man, and a prosperous man. Though he fights against God's people, God will execute judgement for His people. *He shall bring forth Thy righteousness as the light, and Thy judgement as the noonday.* (Psalm 37:6) He will do great things for His people, and they will stand amazed at the great goodness of the Lord. No man will ever touch God's people and prosper. *It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea.* (Matthew 18:6) *Hearken unto Me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is My law; fear ye not the reproach of men...For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool: but My righteousness shall be for ever, and My salvation from generation to generation.* (Isaiah 51:7,8) God works for His people, then they testify of His righteousness, and they speak forth His praise, and give utterance to the language of the psalmist: *My tongue shall speak of Thy righteousness and of Thy praise all the day long.* (Psalm 35:28) If professors were more engaged in talking of the Lord's righteousness, there would not be so much fault finding, and back biting, and bitterness.

O may the Lord so work in us that we may be engaged in talking of His righteousness and of His salvation, for we shall soon be brought to the dust of death. The time is too short to trifle. May the Lord give us grace that we may show forth His righteousness, and discern His doings among His people, and among us in particular, and how He has got for Himself, in our souls' experience, a great name. It is a mercy to be enabled to rehearse the righteous acts of the Lord. *(Thy people) shall abundantly utter the memory of Thy great goodness, and shall sing of Thy righteousness.* (Psalm 145:7)

May he Lord add His blessing.

Afternoon Sermon

My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness and Thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof. I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only. (Psalm 71:15,16)

The psalmist knew God's righteousness and God's salvation. The Lord taught him in early life, and when he was an old man, he called upon the Lord not to cast him off in old age: *Forsake me not when my strength faileth. For mine enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together, saying, God hath forsaken him: persecute and take him; for there is none to deliver him. O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help. (Psalm 71:9-12)* He lifted up his eyes to the hills from whence his help came. His help must come from the Lord, so he calls upon the Lord for help, and pleads with Him after this manner: *Make haste for my help.*

The salvation of the righteous is of the Lord. He is their strength in the time of trouble, and He will help them, and deliver them. He will save them from the wicked because they trust in Him, and then their life speaks of God's righteousness.

Those of you that were here this morning will remember that we tried to speak of a few things concerning the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ. He wrought out, and brought in, everlasting salvation. He is the righteousness of His people. He was made sin for us. O how many times have I looked at these words of the apostle in the *Epistle to the Corinthians: For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21)* O to be made the righteousness of God in Christ! Here is a mystery, my dear hearers, yet this is what some of you are after continually – I speak it advisedly – to know that you are made the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ. O to have that righteousness of which you were singing in your opening hymn, and also in the hymn you have just been singing:

*Righteousness within thee rooted
May appear to take thy part;
But let righteousness imputed
Be the breastplate of thy heart. (Joseph Hart)*

O to have Christ's righteousness! O to be enabled to say, My righteousness is in heaven. Christ is my righteousness, *who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption. (1 Corinthians 1:30)*

We mentioned that one branch of the righteousness of God is when the Lord executes righteousness for all that are oppressed, as we have it in the *103rd Psalm*. The righteousness of God is the faithfulness of God in performing His promises. I know what I am speaking about, my friends. I have known what it is for the Lord to fulfil the word of His grace in my soul's experience, as the psalmist mentions in the *119th Psalm, verse 123: Mine eyes fail for Thy salvation, and for the word of Thy righteousness. God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Corinthians 1:9)* O when the Lord does fulfil the word of His grace, then it comes to pass: *My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness.* We speak of the righteousness of the Lord, we make our boast in the Lord, the humble hear thereof and are glad.

Have you never spoken to your friends concerning God's faithfulness, and God's promises being made good? Have you not sometimes, friends, been glad when you have heard persons speak of the Lord's goodness to them, His faithfulness, and His power? You have said with the psalmist: I was glad through Thy work. God does this with His people. *Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it. (Psalm 90: 16,17)* And God

does thus fulfil this petition in the experience of His redeemed. Their mouth shall show forth His righteousness and His salvation all the day.

The psalmist, as we have hinted, knew God's salvation. He knew what it was to go as a sinner to God to be saved. And again he cried unto the Lord: *Say unto my soul, I am thy salvation. Remember me, O Lord, with the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people: O visit me with Thy salvation. (Psalm 35:8 & 106:3)* And God did, more than once or twice. *Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto Thee. (Psalm 51:12,13)* The psalmist knows God's salvation. These are God's salvations. God did save him again and again. And when God saved him, his mouth did show forth God's righteousness and God's salvation.

The Lord has saved a people, a multitude no man can number, out of every nation, kindred, tongue and tribe. The Lord's people are saved. He came into this world to save them; He lived and died to save them; He rose again for their justification; He ascended to the right hand of the Father. He lives to save. We do not preach a dead Saviour; we preach a living Saviour. O what a mercy to feel your need of His righteousness, His salvation! Let me put the question to you individually: Do you want God's righteousness, God's salvation? Do you feel your need of it? Are you satisfied with your own righteousness? The Pharisees were satisfied with their righteousness. Two men went up into the temple to pray. The Pharisee was satisfied. Not so the child of God. Not so where there is grace.

All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. I know it, and some of you do – and this makes you want a better righteousness than you have. You want the righteousness of another. You want to be saved. The Lord has showed you your need of His salvation. You are coming to Him to be saved. *All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out. (John 6:37)* If you are a dead man you cannot come to Him. But you are a living soul, and you are coming unto Him to be saved. You dare not say you are a living man, but you dare say this, that you are coming to Him, and that you want Him. You dare not deny that you want something, and that you are longing after it. You want the Lord to speak to you, to show you His salvation. He will bring near His righteousness, His salvation. He will come and save you. Jesus Christ pleads in heaven for you. I have no hesitation in saying it. *Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: and let such as love Thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified. (Psalm 70:4)*

It is a mercy to want God, to feel your need of a Saviour. I was reading a few days since of a godly man. In days past he was so favoured of God that he blessed God that ever he was born. *Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. (Job 14:1)* But when a man is born of God, he is glad that he was born into the world. O to know the salvation of God! It is worth waiting for, tried soul. O sinking soul, it is worth waiting for. You may have waited months and years for this salvation. You will not wait in vain.

*Tarry His leisure, then;
Wait the appointed hour;
Wait till the Bridegroom of your souls
Reveal His love with power. (A M Toplady)*

God has said: *My salvation shall not tarry. (Isaiah 46:13)* He is faithful that promised. *(Hebrews 10:23)* The Lord will come, and so blessed will be His coming, that the waiting time will appear as nothing. God is not slack, then, says the soul that is delivered, *as some men count slackness. (2 Peter 3:9)* What is the waiting time, when salvation comes? O that this might be the day that salvation might come to some poor sinner! Christ said to Zacchæus: *This day is salvation come to this house. (Luke 19:9)* My heart's prayer and desire to God is that this day some poor soul may know the salvation of God. I know there is such a thing as knowing God's salvation. He was given *a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of His people Israel. (Luke 2:32)* O have you seen God's salvation? Have you seen God's Christ? When did you last see Him?

I told friend Popham the other day, after he had been preaching at Forest Hill (Foresters' Hall) from the words: *Then were the disciples glad when they saw the Lord*, "If you were to ask me when I last saw Him, I should have to say, last Lord's Day." He said, "Favoured man!" I said, "Perhaps you have seen Him today, so you are more favoured." When did you last see Him? I pause. O perhaps your heart sinks within you, and you say, "I never have seen Him." And you wonder whether you will ever see Him. God's people are honest. They cannot say they have seen Him unless they have. Have you seen Him this day? If not, are you longing to see Him? The next best thing to seeing Him is to be longing to see Him, begging, groaning, sighing, weeping to see Him. Those that long to see Him shall see Him, and they shall look on Him whom they have pierced. And when they see Him, their mouth shall speak of His salvation. Why, you sometimes speak of Him, of His salvation, and of His love.

I think I know what it is at times to tell Him that many waters cannot quench His love, and that many floods cannot drown it. Have you ever leaned upon Him coming up out of the wilderness? O the love of Christ! The apostle speaks of *the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge. (Ephesians 3:19)* *Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us. (1 John 4:10)* Herein is love – to think that He should come and take my room, place, and stead, and suffer, bleed, and die so that I should for ever live with Him, and be like Him, and spend eternity with Him. *Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God. (Revelation 1:5,6)* Sometimes one is constrained by the love of God to speak of His salvation to others, and to say: *Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what He hath done for my soul. (Psalm 66:16)*

O the salvation of God! It is a salvation from the curse of a broken law, from the damning power of sin, and from the love of sin. It is a salvation to an everlasting kingdom that fadeth not away. O the salvations of the Lord! They are eternal salvations. *My mouth shall shew forth Thy righteousness and Thy salvation all the day.* It is a mercy when you have nothing else to speak about but God's salvation and God's righteousness all the day. There is not much time to find fault with other people. It is nice when you wake in the morning and your thoughts are upon the things of God, and you begin to meditate upon the person of the Son of God, and when the Lord favours you through the day. It is a good day, then, when you are glad in Him as the Lord your righteousness, your salvation. And you have the witness within that God hath made with you an everlasting covenant.

This is all my salvation, and all my desire, although He make it not to grow. (2 Samuel 23:5) You find the psalmist knew God's salvation, temporal salvation, deliverances. No other God saved him but the Lord. He was surrounded with enemies. Absalom sought his life. There was the conspiracy of Ahithophel, and they sought after him continually, and pursued after him, and he needed the Lord to deliver him. God saved him out of the hands of his enemies many times, and He gave his enemies, if I may so speak, right into his hands. But David would not touch a hair of Saul's head. So you find the Lord saved David again and again.

Now my friends, what have you to say? Has not the Lord delivered you again and again? Ah, perhaps when you can see no way of escape in providence, you think that the Lord will never deliver you. But He has come. He will command deliverance for Jacob. He has delivered; He does deliver; and we trust He will yet deliver. He works salvation. He delivers His people. Again and again He delivered David, and yet you find him saying: *I shall now perish one day at the hand of Saul. (1 Samuel 27:1)*

Now, our friends, the Lord has saved and delivered them, but I know by the breathings at the throne of grace they are longing for fresh deliverances. No man can keep alive his own soul, and so their eyes are up unto the Lord. They cry: "Lord, save me, deliver me, make a way for me. Lord, come to me, do speak to me." The man prays, and gets no answer. He looks back, and he takes no comfort from past deliverances. His way is hedged in. He cannot find God. He goes backward, and he goes

forward. He cannot perceive Him. He reels to and fro like a drunken man. He cries unto the Lord in the bitterness of his soul's feeling: "Make haste, O God, make haste. Lord, do come. I have no might against the great company that comes up against me. My eyes are up unto the Lord."

*He sees me often overcome,
And pities my distress;
And bids affliction drive me home,
To anchor on His grace. (Thomas Greene)*

Blessed anchorage, blessed affliction, that God sends to drive you to Him. Bless Him for it, painful as it may be.

We are brought very low, says the psalmist. But low as the psalmist was brought, he lived to prove that he had to be brought lower. He sank right into the arms of love, and we have sometimes sunk right into the arms of love. *The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. (Deuteronomy 33:27)* And when this has been the case, our mouth has shown forth God's praise, and God's salvation all the day, and we have said: "I know not the number thereof – all the blessings and help, and thoughts of the Lord toward us. We have not been able to reckon them up." *Thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto Thee...they are more than can be numbered. (Psalm 40:5)* So the psalmist in the 139th Psalm says: *How precious also are Thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with Thee. (v.17,18)* I know not the number thereof. I have sometimes thought, and I have sometimes expressed something like this: I know not the number thereof. Deliverances will come, and we shall praise God throughout the countless ages of a never-ending eternity.

When the Lord blesses you, you say: *I will go in the strength of the Lord God.* There is a coming into the deliverance of the Lord. The Lord is the strength of His people, and He sometimes says, "Let him take hold upon My strength." O the taking hold of the strength of the Lord, and going forth in the strength of the Lord, and making mention of what the Lord has done! *I will go in the strength of the Lord.* What a holy, blessed resolution we have here: *I will go in the strength of the Lord God.* Perhaps sometimes you have been tempted to give up praying. A person came to me the other evening after I had been preaching, and he said: "Last night I fell upon my knees, and I said, 'Lord, I cannot pray.'" Do you know what it is to fall before the Lord and say, I cannot pray? But when the Lord pours the spirit of prayer and supplication upon you, and you go before Him and make mention of His righteousness, you put Him in remembrance of what He has done for you. How you esteem Him as the chiefest among ten thousand, and the altogether lovely, and you can honestly appeal unto Him in that hour, and say, "Whom have I in heaven but Thee?"

One of the friends today prayed of the Lord that He would appear to him so that he could say:

*I could from all things parted be,
But never, never, Lord, from Thee. (Samuel Medley)*

I remember some three years ago giving utterance to it, but God soon put me to the test. If God puts you to the test, you will find this, that He will give you grace and strength to bear it. And in His strength you can go before Him, and make mention of His righteousness, even of His only. You would not dare to make mention of any other at the throne of grace. You bless Him for His unspeakable gift, as the apostle said: *Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift. (2 Corinthians 9:15)* I speak with reverence – He could not have given a greater gift than this, in giving His dear Son. This is the gift of God, and you bless Him for Jesus Christ. And you bless Him for His righteousness, and for your well-being, and for the hope that you have, and that you will one day be where He is.

I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only. And so ministers go forth in the strength of the Lord, and make mention of His righteousness. They make mention of no other righteousness. And so those that are constrained by grace to take up their cross, they go before God's people to testify – what of? Their goodness, good temper, good frames? Nothing of the sort! They come to testify of the righteousness of the Person of the Son of God. And they say:

*Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head. (Count Zinzendorf)*

I will go in the strength of the Lord God. When you are weak, then it is the best time to go. You say, "I do feel so unfit." This is the time to come.

*All the fitness He requireth,
Is to feel your need of Him;
This He gives you,
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam. (Joseph Hart)*

And so, in the strength of the Lord God, you make mention of His righteousness, even of His only. You dare not make mention of any other, but you dare make mention of His righteousness. There is boldness, and liberty, and freedom. And there is an entrance into the hearts of those to whom you testify, and they say: *Come in, thou blessed of the Lord; wherefore standest thou without?*" (Genesis 24:31)