

Notes of Sermons Preached by Pastor Henry Haddow at Brockham Green
on Lord's Day May 14th 1911

Morning Sermon

And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. (Romans 16:20)

These words came with a little power into my soul last evening. It is a mercy when the Lord is pleased to drop a word with any degree of power into such a heart as mine. Power belongeth unto God, and He makes us to know it. It is: *Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. (Zechariah 4:6) The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. (John 6:63)* You may read the Word of God, and yet not find any particular power attend the reading, but at another time you may find much power in the word. Christ speaks to you, and you sit at His feet, and you receive His word, and you have meat to eat the world knows nothing of. You have the peace the world cannot give nor take away. You know something of what it is, some of you, for the Lord to give you peace. You taste the *peace of God which passeth all understanding*, and then you put the crown upon the right head.

If ever I have blessed God for Jesus Christ, it has been when He has been pleased to favour my soul. Then like the great apostle we have said: *Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift. (2 Corinthians 9:15)* Had not God given His Son, and had not the Son engaged to come into this world and redeem His people from all sin, we should have known nothing of peace. Men may speak of having peace without blood, but it is a peace that is not worth having. Men may exhort sinners dead in their trespasses and sins to make their peace with God, and they may profess to do this. Some I have known to do this. A deacon in the church on Wednesday evening, after I had been preaching, told me there was a time when he had faith, but it was not a faith that stood in the power of God, but in the wisdom of man. My friends, I want you to have what I want for myself – that peace which flows into the soul through the blood of Christ.

There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked. (Isaiah 48:22) Those of you who are new creatures, and have passed from death unto life, you know that in the days of your unregeneracy there was no real peace. You were strangers to it. You might have heard God's people speak about it. Persons do not know anything about it until they are born of God, and enriched with living faith in the Person of His dear Son. Then they know something of peace.

The apostle here speaks of God as *the God of peace*. God the Father is a God of love, and He is a God of peace. We are apt to have hard thoughts sometimes concerning the Father. *God is love*, says John, and God is love in Jesus Christ. And had it never entered the mind of the Father that His people should have peace, His people would never have had peace. He loved a multitude in the Person of His dear Son, who came into the world according to covenant engagement. He laid down His life a ransom for many. Christ was promised to Adam in the Garden of Eden. He said to the serpent: *I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed, and it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. (Genesis 3:15)* Christ came, according to the promise, to be put to grief. He came to bruise, to destroy, He came to abolish death, and bring life and immortality to light through the gospel.

The Father sends the Son, the willing Son obeys, and Jesus comes in the fulness of time. He leaves the realms of bliss, and comes into the lower world. *Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ – blessed souls if you do! – that, though He was rich in all the perfections of deity, yet for your sakes He became poor, (a Man of sorrows, acquainted with grief) that ye through His poverty might be rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9 & Isaiah 53:3)* I wish I could set forth the love of God the Father and of God the Son, as I trust at times I taste it. You cannot set it forth as you would if you have ever tasted it. You think of it for one moment. Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of the eternal Father, veils His deity in human flesh, tabernacles among men, made a little lower than the angels. What for? The sufferings of death.

Crowned, says the apostle, with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. (Hebrews 2:9,10)

Why, I am lost sometimes in meditation. I do not know whether you are or not. You look at these words: *perfect through sufferings*. Who is? The Lord Jesus Christ, the Redeemer, the Saviour, He that came to seek and to save that which was lost. Why, I do not wonder that it is written in this blessed Book that the angels desire to look into these things. Can you be satisfied without having the witness of the Holy Ghost that you have an interest in these deep things of God? Can you be satisfied without a revelation of the Person of the Son of God? If you have never known anything of this revelation, you have never tasted peace, such peace as flows from the blood-shedding of that Man whose peace shall be the peace of His people. When Jesus Christ died on the cross mercy and truth met together, righteousness and peace kissed each other. (*Psalm 85:10*) And I cannot conceive of any peace between God and man's soul in any other way.

*Peace by His cross has Jesus made;
The church's everlasting Head
O'er hell and sin has victory won,
And, with a shout, to glory gone. (John Kent)*

This is how we come to know God as the God of peace. When God quickens a sinner, and charges sin home to the conscience, that sinner falls before the Lord, and that sinner does not find fault with God. There are heaps of professors that find fault with God's Word, who are, mind you, proving the Word of God to be true. God has declared that the timer will come when there will be such persons. When God begins with a man, that man's mouth is closed. He has not a thing to say against the Word of God, and he falls before the Lord, and would not find fault with such language as –

*How sad our state by nature is;
Our sin how deep its stains;
And Satan binds our captive minds
Fast in his slavish chains. (Isaac Watts)*

The man feels it, knows it, and tastes it; he is no stranger to it. It is a mercy to know that you are a sinner. All are sinners in God's sight. God says it, and what God says is true. *All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)* *There is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre. (Romans 3:12,13)* They go from their birth speaking lies. They are enemies to God, hateful. This is God's description of man in the ruins of the fall. You know, some preachers patch him up, and they represent him not quite so bad as this – they make him something quite different. They set man up as a picture to look at. But let God come and show this man light in His light, and then he has to confess that from the crown of the head to the feet he is a mass of bruises, wounds, and putrefying sores – one mass of corruption. This man will begin to wonder, as some of you and I have done, as to whether God will ever have mercy upon such earthly, sensual, devilish creatures as we are, and under the teaching of the Holy Ghost know ourselves to be. Why, I have sometimes thought, and God is my witness, that if ever I get to heaven, none need despair. If there are any here ready to despair, you need not despair since I have mercy found. *Mercy through blood I make my plea. (Samuel Medley)*

*Ere long a heavenly voice I heard,
And Mercy's angel-form appeared,
She led me on with placid pace,
To Jesus Christ my hiding-place. (Jehoida Brewer)*

I have found this, friends, that He is my peace. This is a peace that is of infinite value. It flows into the soul through the blood-shedding of the Person of the Son of God. It will break your heart, and cause tears to flow down your cheeks, and lay you in the dust, and make you say, "Why me, O God,

why me?" You will be amazed that the God of heaven should take notice of such an one as you feel yourself to be, and that He should ever have had thoughts of peace towards you, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Cannot some of you say, looking back to when the Lord inspired peace into your soul:

*What peaceful hours I then enjoyed,
How sweet their memory still! (William Cowper)*

You had not tasted peace had not Jesus Christ bruised Satan's head.

We have the words in our text to refer to later on: *The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.* Satan has been bruised under Christ's feet, but Satan bruised Christ's heel: *Thou shalt bruise his heel (but He) shall bruise thy head. (Genesis 3:15)* Christ came to be bruised so that His people might have peace. In 53rd *Isaiah* it reads: *It pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. (v.10)* He was bruised and wounded. O my friends, Jesus Christ knew something of what it was to be bruised and wounded. Is there *any sorrow like unto my sorrow? (Lamentations 1:12)*

*The Lord, in the day of His anger, did lay
Our sins on the Lamb, and He bore them away. (Charles Wesley)*

What He bore none will ever know – God only knows it.

*Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree. (Isaac Watts)*

Now, this Person that was bruised, He is the peace of His people. Men may preach to sinners peace where there is no peace. They may build them up with un-tempered mortar. Would you have any minister to come into the pulpit, and build you up, where there is no peace, and then to find you have a false peace? God forbid that we should ever be left to do this – to hear the daughter crying, *Peace, peace; when there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14)* We would be instrumental, the Lord knows, in His hands to bring peace into the souls of His dear people. He does make use of feeble instruments in accomplishing thoughts of peace towards the redeemed. We would feed the flock of slaughter. But we would not like you to have any false peace.

*Let no false comfort lift (you) up
To confidence that's vain. (Joseph Hart)*

Are you thirsting for peace in the Person of the Son of God? *They that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee. (Psalm 9:10)* God is to be known by His name and character. *The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe. (Proverbs 18:10)* The sinner enlightened by divine grace wants to know God in this name, as the God of peace. There is no walking with God until this is brought about, and the sinner is enriched with the knowledge that God is the God of peace, to the Jew and to the Gentile. He has broken down the middle wall of partition, and they shall know something of peace through the God of peace.

God has consecrated a new and living way through His cross, whereby the rich and the poor may approach unto God. *Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and He shall grow up out of His place, and He shall build the temple of the Lord. Even He shall build the temple of the Lord; and He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both. (Zechariah 6:12,13)* The Jew and the Gentile shall know that there is peace through the blood of the cross. That is how I understand it. God brings it about by His own Spirit, working mightily in vessels of mercy, afore prepared unto glory. And they ascribe glory unto God, and unto the Father.

My dear hearers, do you know anything of these things? Do you know this God of peace? Do you know anything of the peace of God which flows into the soul through believing? *By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:8,9)* I do increasingly feel this. I want to be right for eternity. We know not how soon we shall be in eternity. O, are we ready?

*Pause, my soul! and ask the question,
Art thou ready to meet God?
Am I made a real Christian,
Washed in the Redeemer's blood?
Have I union
To the church's living Head? (William Gadsby)*

If I know anything of the peace I have been trying to set before you, I have union to Christ. Jesus has loved me, I cannot tell why, but this I do know, that we too are so found. He won't be in heaven, and leave me behind. I do love Jesus Christ as my peace. O to think that He has made peace through the blood of His cross! We do beseech you, through the blood of the cross, to be reconciled to God. So the believers know something of reconciliation. Can you say:

*By faith in Christ I walk with God,
With heaven my journey's end in view. ? (John Newton)*

O, it comes to it, my friends. We have faith in Christ, and know something of reconciliation through His death, and we approach to the Father in His name, and know something in some measure, it may be, of what it is to walk with God. *Can two walk together except they be agreed? (Amos 3:3)* God and the sinners walk together? Do you know anything of walking with God? Or are you satisfied without it? Those who are led the way I have been trying to bring before you, they know what it is to walk and talk with God. And this causes their hearts to praise the Lord, and to declare among His people His doings.

I remember many years ago how I vowed to the Lord that, if He would reveal Himself to me, I would, as He enabled me:

*Point to His redeeming love,
And say, "Behold, the way to God." (John Cennick)*

But when the time came, O what a holding back, and what a shrinking from it! I sometimes thought of Moses – he was ready until God's time came, but O what a holding back from going before Pharaoh, and saying, "Let My people go, that they may go and worship Me." The Lord sent him, and so I trust the Lord sent me. Ah friends,

*E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
(His) flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die. (William Cowper)*

I do think I can say that I did feel the Lord Jesus Christ to be very precious to my soul last Lord's Day at the Table, both here, and again in the evening at Forest Hill. And I could not help giving out the hymn that I gave out here to finish up with, and this verse was the very language of my soul:

*Yes, Thou art precious to my soul,
My transport and my trust;
Jewels to me are gaudy toys,
And gold is sordid dust. (Philip Doddridge)*

Jesus is precious to those that know anything of peace through His blood. Christ died that you might have peace. You never had a grain of peace but what cost Him agony and blood and smart. You would never have had peace if He had not suffered and died and rose again for your justification.

Supposing the question was put to you individually: What is Christ to you? What would you say? I pause, because it is a solemn question. O do you know the Lord Jesus Christ as your peace? The apostle says, as we were reading in your hearing not long since, *He is our peace. (Ephesians 2:14)* This Man shall be our peace. Is He your peace? Have you lasting peace? How is it with you as you sit on your seats this morning? Have you peace on your soul? The child of grace knows something of this at times, as he is wrought upon by the power of the [Holy Ghost. There is peace, and it flows like a river into the soul. God says: *O that (My people) were wise...that they would consider their latter end. (Deuteronomy 32:29)* O that My people would hearken. The God of all peace can give you peace. *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee. (Isaiah 26:3)* O when you are enabled by grace to trust in Him, and you have this peace in your soul, you approach the God of peace, and the God of love, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, with child-like simplicity and confidence, and you call upon His Name, and bless Him, and praise Him.

Now, *the God of peace.* O I want to know more of Him as the God of peace. I shall have to leave the subject now, but you may depend upon it, that if we know the God of peace after this manner I have been trying to set before you, we shall know something of the dealings of the God of peace in such a way and manner as those that have gone before. Yes, I am satisfied of it, and you know, as the Lord said to His disciples before He left them: *In the world ye shall have tribulation: but in Me ye shall have peace: be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)* And having overcome the world, we have the sweet feeling in our souls, though we shall know something of the adversary, the God of peace has put him under His feet.

I must just ask this question before I sit down, though we hope to deal with it later on: Have you ever had him under your feet? Has God ever bruised him under your feet? The God of peace puts your feet on the necks of these kings' heads, and these five kings, their heads were under the feet of their enemies. You read in the book of *Joshua* – and I am sure there are moments when Satan is under your feet. The time will come when he will be for ever under your feet. The God of peace shall do it – you cannot do it. You are as weak as water if you are a gracious soul. You have no power against Satan, but the Lord Jesus Christ can put him under your feet, and in such a marked way and manner as shall give you the victory through His precious blood. Though perhaps you expressed the very feeling of your soul in your hymn of praise:

*Does Satan tempt you to give up,
And call no more on Jesus' Name? (Henry Fowler)*

Does he? He will soon be under your feet.

Afternoon Sermon

And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. (Romans 16:20)

It is a mercy of mercies to taste the peace of God which passes all understanding. You began the service by singing:

*The peace of which I had a taste
When Jesus first His love revealed,
I fondly hoped would always last,
Because my foes were then concealed. (John Newton)*

I wonder how many of you sang the hymn as expressing the very language of your souls in the sight of a heart-searching and rein-trying God. O it is a mercy if you can indeed look back to the time when you tasted the peace of God. This peace in blood-bought peace, and there is no peace like it.

*No peace, but in the Son of God;
No joy, but through His pardoning blood. (Richard Burnham)*

Christ is the peace of the soul, and peace flows into the soul. If there is a poor sinner in this house of prayer thirsting for pardoning peace amidst all the storm within, Christ has undertaken to speak peace unto your soul, and peace will flow into your soul, and you will sit at His feet a pardoned sinner, and you will begin to say it will always last. Ah, there are those in this house of prayer that thought it would always last, and thought that they would have this peace in their soul day by day, week by week, year by year. We are apt to forget that we are in the enemy's land, and that we carry about with us a body of sin and death. In Christ we shall ever find peace, but in the world we shall find tribulation. O what an unspeakable mercy to know anything of these things by way of gracious experience, and to be favoured in any measure to enter into the kingdom of God's grace, and to have the grace of God working mightily in us, and to know the things of God for ourselves.

One of our friends has expressed this day, in his breathings at the throne of grace, that religion is a personal thing. Thus it is a matter between the individual soul and the Lord. So it is, and so you will find it. O it is a mercy, friends, to have to do with God, and you feel it is a solemn thing, too. But it is a more solemn thing not to have to do with God in some measure. O to be brought daily before Him, and know Him as the God of peace! He is the God of love, of hope, and of peace, and His people are brought to know Him as such, and they can find peace nowhere else.

In trouble the Lord Jesus Christ spake to His disciples, as we were reading just now: *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (John 14:1,2)* Then He says: *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (v.27)* When the Lord speaks after this manner, we are not afraid. We have the peace then that the world cannot give, and which it cannot take away.

O what peace is felt, as we hinted this morning, when the Lord thus speaks peace, and we walk in the light of His countenance, and walk up and down in the Name of the Lord. He is our hope, and our all and in all, and we realise that we have union to Him, and that we are branches of the heavenly Vine. And then fruit is brought forth to the praise of God's grace. O what a mercy of mercies to taste this peace, and to be in the enjoyment of it, and to have the mind set upon God, and to be kept in perfect peace!

Hezekiah cried in the bitterness of his soul: *Behold, for peace I had great bitterness. (Isaiah 38:17)* In the margin it reads: *On my peace came great bitterness.* Do you know anything of what it is for great bitterness to come on your peace? There is the day of adversity, and the day of prosperity. One is set over against the other. Sometimes you feel the God of peace fill you with peace through believing. You have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ, and you feel you can leave everything in His blessed hands. All your times are in His hands, and you can say:

*Plagues and deaths around me fly;
Till He bids, I cannot die;
Not a single shaft can hit,
Till the God of love sees fit. (John Ryland)*

You can leave everything in His hands, and you realise that it is well, and will be well with you, for the Lord favours you to walk in the light of His countenance, and you are favoured indeed. The candle of the Lord shines upon you, and the Sun of Righteousness has risen upon your soul, with

healing in His wings. There is no darkness or carnality of mind for the time being. There is love and peace, and you walk in the fear of the Lord – not presumptuously. The fear of the Lord is in exercise in your soul, and you are preserved in the fear of the Lord, and the peace of God is in your soul.

Can you honestly say you know this path? It is the path of the just; it is as a shining light which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. When the Lord breaks in upon the soul, and grants some fresh discovery of Himself, then the light shines brighter and brighter. Then you do indeed believe that you will hold on your way.

*They may on the main of temptation be tossed;
Their sorrows may swell as the sea;
But none of the ransomed shall ever be lost;
The righteous shall hold on his way. (Henry Fowler)*

And you feel that you will hold on your way, and endure unto the end, and be saved.

These words came to my mind last evening: *He that endureth to the end shall be saved. (Matthew 10:22)* O I want to endure unto the end, and be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation, and for Him so say concerning me and the whole election of grace: *I come to Thee...and those that Thou gavest Me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. (John 17:12)*

Friends, do you find it easy to believe? I have, but it has been when God has brought faith into active exercise in my soul, and I have then been enabled to say: *For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day. (2 Timothy 1:12)* Friends, have you ever known what it has been to find it hard to believe? I have. What? say you, find it hard to believe, after you have had this faith? Yes, even after being thus favoured. The psalmist said: *Thou hast made my mountain to stand strong. He could say this feelingly, but he says: Thou didst hide Thy face, and I was troubled. (Psalm 30:7)* Is it not hard work under the hidings of God's face to believe?

*O could I but believe,
Then all would easy be;
I would, but cannot; Lord, relieve!
My help must come from Thee. (John Newton)*

*Could we see how all is right,
Where were room for credence?
But by faith, and not by sight,
Christians yield obedience. (Joseph Hart)*

O what a life is the life of a child of God! How strange and mysterious the path he is called to tread – but the Lord's hand is in it, and He has a purpose in it. Why, if the Lord were not to deal with us after this manner, we should grow proud, and the heart would *uplift with God's own gift, and make e'en grace a snare*. And He gives His people to know that *He is too wise to err, too good to be unkind*. O it is a mercy of mercies, as I often remind you, to have faith in God, and to be strong at times in faith, giving glory to God. Abraham was not always strong in faith, and Moses was not always strong in faith. He questioned God's word, and God had to speak to him as to whether His arm was waxed short. Ah, my friends, you say: *I on Thy promises depend*, and you feel that they will be fulfilled in your soul's experience. At another time, it may be, you question as to whether you are interested in the promises, and whether your religion began with the flesh, after all your profession, and you begin to wonder what will become of you. Well, you know, the Lord is forming you for Himself, and preparing you to sing the song of salvation.

If God did not lead His people about after this manner, they would never sing the song of Moses the servant of the Lord, and the song of the Lamb. I believe with all my heart that every sinner God takes in hand will get to heaven. Though all are not formed alike, all are loved alike. Some men do not find the furnace as hot as do others, or the devil as powerful as others do. But they will have to taste of the fire, and know something of the power of the devil. If God's people had not a tempting devil to do with, the devil that goes about like a roaring lion, we had not such words as these written, as we are trying to bring before you this afternoon. *The God of peace*, says the apostle Paul – he knew something of the God of peace – *The God of peace shall bruise Satan shortly*. Who is Satan? An enemy, an adversary, an accuser. He is the accuser of the brethren, he resists them. Look at Joshua in his filthy garments, and Satan at his right hand. The Lord rebuked Satan, so was not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Do not think you will ever know anything of peace without knowing something of the power of the destroyer of peace. Man was at peace with his Maker, but you know how Satan lied with our parents in the Garden of Eden. Satan is the father of lies; he will come to the people of God after this manner: *Hath God said – this or the other?* O my friends, I do not believe that any vessel of mercy escapes Satan's power and temptations and accusations. *Satan walketh about as a roaring lion. (1 Peter 5:8)* *Simon, Simon, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. (Luke 22:31)* God said to Satan: *Hast thou considered my servant Job?* Yes, he says, I have considered him, but Thou hast hedged him in. O it is a mercy that Satan can go only so far as God permits him, and not one bit further. He is an enemy, and a mighty foe. But he cannot go beyond his chain. The Lord Jesus Christ has put him under His feet. He has trodden down Satan. He came into the world that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Some persons speak lightly of the power of Satan, but such persons know nothing of his power and fiery darts, and his temptation. I believe with all my heart that there are times in the experience of God's people when they need the Lord to lift up a standard against Satan. If you fear God, here is the promise made to you in His Word, and this promise would not be made to you if there was no experience of these things. The promise is this: *When the enemy shall come in like a flood (to sweep all before him), the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him. (Isaiah 59:19)* *In the floods of great waters (it) shall not come nigh unto (thee). (Psalm 32:6)* *Touch not his life*, said the Lord to Satan. But he will seek to worry and annoy those he cannot destroy. He will not be able to destroy one of the weakest in the fold, but the weakest in the fold will know something of the power of Satan.

Bear this in mind: no strange thing, no temptation, happens to the child of God but such as the Lord suffered. It is written in the *Hebrews*: *In that He Himself suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted. (ch.2:18)* I challenge you. You cannot name a temptation you have had presented to you, but what was presented to the Lord Jesus Christ. O you say, I should not like to name it! He bore witness to what I say; Christ destroyed it. Every temptation you are the subject of, Christ suffered being tempted in like manner. *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are. (Hebrews 4:15)* But we have an High Priest that can be touched, one that –

– *knows what sore temptations mean,*
For He has felt the same. (Isaac Watts)

Ye tempted souls, reflect
Whose name 'tis you profess;
Your Master's lot you must expect –
Temptations more or less. (Joseph Hart)

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it. (1 Corinthians 10:13) Take the prophets that have suffered in

the name of the Lord. O my friends, are you tried and tempted as Job was tempted? Satan is under your feet. These words touched me last night, and then I began to think it is not so long since I read these words somewhere. I thought, speaking after the manner of men, if it had not been for that, I should have read them. On referring, I found that I had read them by way of text at Guildford: *He shall pray unto God in affliction, in temptation, in trouble. (? source)* So it comes to pass that we tread the same path as the saints of God have been called to tread in all ages, and –

*They marked the footsteps that He trod,
(His zeal inspired their breast);
And following their incarnate God,
Possess the promised rest. (Isaac Watts)*

He shall pray unto God in the hour of temptation when Satan's power is felt. In the hour when the same afflictions are accomplished in us as were accomplished in our brethren, we shall pray unto God. The God of peace to whom we pray shall (not perhaps – He **will**) He shall bruise or tread Satan under your feet shortly. I do love the *shalls* of Almighty God. *And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.* He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. He is the Almighty Conqueror, and He has all power in heaven and in earth, and He will do it for you. Tried, tempted, and afflicted soul, God is more for you than all that are against you. All the fiends in hell, all the powers of darkness, may be against you, but what are these to our God? Jesus Christ grappled with the powers of darkness in the Garden of Gethsemane, and now He reigns victorious over sin, death, and hell, and the grave, and He shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.

Sometimes, as I hinted this morning, you have Satan under your feet, and you have the world under your feet. For the time being, when the Lord favours you, where is the world, and Satan, and all the powers of darkness? They are all under your feet, and you have the victory through the blood of Christ. *But the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.* You will never feel any of his power after that; there will be no tempting devil in heaven. Christ shall reign, and His people shall reign as kings and priests with Him, and Satan shall be under their feet. All enemies under the feet of Christ, and under the feet of His saints, and they shall reign with Him for ever and ever.

*All hail the power of Jesus' name,
Let angels prostrate fall,
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all. (Edward Perronet)*

Amen.