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GOSPEL STANDARD BAPTISTS

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Prayer meeting address by Mr. J. Delves at "Ebenezer" Clapham
on Monday evening 9.5.77

Hymns 1023, 767

Reading Psalm 48

If this last verse, dear friends, is true of you and me, then we are favoured above all the inheritance of the earth, to have a saving knowledge of God. The Psalmist is sometimes in a good frame and sees the beauty of worship. He says "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is known in her palaces for a refuge". He is only known in a saving way in Zion. He will be known by all one day when that great day of Assize shall come and the inhabitants of the earth are gathered together. O what a wonderful mercy, dear friends, it is to have a saving knowledge of Christ! We cannot over-emphasise the importance of this. Many people may be in their way religious and be lost at last, but if we have in our souls a saving knowledge of this glorious, blessed Person, the Lord Jesus Christ, we shall never be lost - never. Now and again, sometimes in the services of the sanctuary, and at other times, a little of the beauty of our blessed Emmanuel is seen. I have been much struck with the last verse of the hymn we had where good Mr. Cowper says,

"Here may we prove the power of prayer
To strengthen faith and sweeten care;
To teach our faint desires to rise,
And bring all heaven before our eyes".

O what a mercy of mercies to be right and to know that the last verse here will be true of you and me - "For this God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death". If He is your God now He will be your God for ever and will be your guide even unto death. He has a people appointed unto eternal life, brought to a saving knowledge of Himself, where Christ is made precious in the heart, the chief among ten thousand and the altogether lovely. May we feel Him to be so and feel something of this last verse, "For this God" - that is the God referred to in the Psalm - "For this God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death". Amen.

Further reading Psalm 46.