

A

Cry to the Children of God

IN VIEW OF THE

Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Brethren, beloved of God, partakers of the heavenly calling,

MY heart is greatly exercised about the beloved people of God in these days of sad departure from the Word and Will of God.

It is not that I have much to say to you, more than earnestly to entreat you to get much alone with God in prayer; and with bowed hearts to read His precious Word, looking for the teaching of the Holy Spirit.

Surely our beloved Lord, who bought us with His precious blood, will soon fulfil His promise, and come to take us into His Father's house, that where He is, there we may be also. *John xiv.*; *1 Thess. iv. 13-17.*

Oh, my brethren, soon we shall be at home with the Lord. What a joy to Him and to us!

Our delight that we are with Him,
His to have us there!

Only a little moment here, it may be: how then shall it be spent? When He comes, will He not find an Anna, a Simeon, waiting and ready to welcome Him? Should

we not delight thus to be? And what while we wait? Shall it be mixing up with the world that refused, and still refuses Christ, and is under judgment? Nay, shall we not rather warn poor sinners to flee from the wrath to come, instead of helping to amuse them on the road to eternal perdition?

Fellow Christians, holy brethren, soon the great separation may take place. We who are redeemed with the precious blood of Christ shall be in glory, and the unbelieving punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord. But the moment before this takes place, how shall it be spent? Oh, let us be cleaving to the Lord, reading the Word—learning the mind, the grace, the heart of God made known therein; and, thus learning, may we walk to His glory and His pleasure.

Read *Malachi*, dear saints of God. See how Israel had gone astray! Then see how God's great Name was profaned and despised, and how the religious leaders caused the people to err! Yet, beloved brethren, there were those who were jealous for the Name of the Lord, and mourned over the dishonour done to their God. Often spake they one to another. They feared the Lord, and thought upon His Name. Precious were their communings with themselves, and how precious to the Lord! "They shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels;" again, He

says, "Unto you that fear My Name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings." Dark as was this period in Israel's history, are not these days still darker in the Church's history? * Has she not departed from the Lord who bought her,—and gone after the world which refused, and still refuses Him! Oh! fellow Christians, hear the cry, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from [among] the dead, and Christ shall give thee light," (or shine upon thee)! Up, thy Lord is coming, dear brother, dear sister! Be true to Him for the moment left! Hear His voice, "I come quickly." May thy heart and mine respond from their deepest depths, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"

Should one read this who is only a professor—one who cannot look up and say "My own precious Saviour!" let me beg such an one to come now as a poor guilty sinner to the feet of the blessed Saviour, and learn there all the grace of His heart, and the value of the precious blood shed at Calvary.

"Now is the accepted time"—"*now* is the day of salvation!"

E. G. G.

* Read epistles to Timothy. Note especially 2 Timothy ii., where we get the condition of Christendom in the last days set forth, and guidance for those who desire to walk in faithfulness to the Lord. It is *faithfulness* the Lord looks for and values in His people. See also Rev. iii. 8, "Thou hast a little strength, and hast kept My word, and hast not denied My name."