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II. IS THERE ANY REMEDY FOR OUR HEAVY AFFLICTION ?

1. *We should seek after larger measures of grace.* Thanks be to God, "we may come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." If we so do, our grief shall last only through a night, and joy shall come in the morning. Is it nothing that you have a child in heaven? Are the consolations of God small with thee? God does not stint us in the bestowment of grace, but He gives no more than we use. To him that uses shall be given, and he shall have more abundantly.

2. *We should look at what death has been instrumental in accomplishing for the child.* And what is this? Death has removed her from all the uncertainty, sickness, pain, sorrow, and change that belong even to the brightest and happiest life here on earth. Through the gateway of death her spirit has ascended to God, who gave it. She is now a full sharer in the glorified bliss of heaven. She dwells where Jesus is, and in full possession of eternal life. Oh, if we could only see more clearly the place she occupies in heaven, the grand capacities and possibilities of life opened to her, her early removal from us would have in it less of anguish and more of consolation! To-day, clad in garments whiter than the snow, she sings with sweeter voice than has e'er been heard upon earth, and bears a vocal part in that grand symphony of heaven: "Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father: to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

THE TENT HOME AND THE ETERNAL HOME.

BY THEODORE L. CUYLER, D.D., BROOKLYN.

Therefore, we are always confident, knowing that whilst we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.—2 CORINTHIANS v. 6.

OUR body is our tent home; heaven is our eternal home. Eighty years this may last—generally but thirty years. How many have patched up this tabernacle, and by close and careful watching preserved it a few years more! Dust-bound at sixty, it begins to decay. How old you are! How changed you look!

The tent is failing. Soon we will have notice to quit. Every day I see these deserted homes—the inhabitants gone forever to a higher habitation.

1. *These homes are itinerating.* I see few faces here which I saw fifteen years ago. Many have gone to other parts. We are always on the march. In the Orient the piles of ashes, the tent-poles, marking the place where some one has tented for a night, are frequently visible. One day some other pastor will come here and see the ashes and the tent-poles of my stay.

2. *The frailty of this earthly tent.* This but heightens the idea of the permanence of our home beyond. One could have said, "Paul, you are homesick; you have no home, no family, no one but Jesus." Old and gray-headed Apostle, no wonder your eye was fixed above, far over the Mediterranean Sea. Here was a hero going home, to a home God from the eternities built, an abiding home, an everlasting rest. It hath no sun, no moon. Jesus is its light.

3. *The soul-home is where Christ and the people meet.* Heaven is a place; I have no sympathy with the philosophy that makes it a condition. An abstraction is no home. I believe it is a place as definite in location as London or Paris. Bunyan dreamed, but John says, "I saw." The moment I let go the literal translation I let go my home. Is the soul degraded by dwelling in a local heaven? Is it degraded by dwelling in the body? Have you not kissed the frail home of clay, silent, beautiful in death, and felt confident that to leave that tent was to be at home with the Lord? That hope was as an anchor.

The many mansions show that elective affinities may exist there. Families may be together. Emmons desired to talk with Paul, and why not? Will we not be looking for old acquaintances? Happy will we be if we find some one we brought there.

4. *But our entrance is not yet.* We are still in the body. Is your name in that Lamb's Book of Life? Let us make ready to go to that home. The negro judged his master had not gone home to heaven because he never talked about it. We must learn something about it. How can we learn if we do not converse about it?