

Coronation of the King

A multitude of the heavenly host became visible; the brightness grew to glory; there was a quivering excitement of rapturous expectation; a sound as of trees swayed by the wind; a movement at the eastern entrance, and, lo, a dazzling figure, escorted right and left by a shining group of people, emerged into view.

Instantly, the angelic host overhead broke into acclamation, in which the whole assembled multitude joined. It was nothing like the "applause" to be heard in mortal assemblies. There was all the abandon with it that is ever manifested at the most enthusiastic public meeting, but there was with this, a gentle fervor and musical cadence that seemed to send waves of the most exquisite sweetness to the remotest corner.

The Lord Jesus advanced to the midst of the assembly. All eyes were on him, his demeanor was royal, yet simple and loving. He paused; there was silence. Then He lifted his eyes and looked gravely round, not all round; and in a voice that was gentle, kind, strong, and exultant all in one, in tones rich, but not strong, and yet as distinctly audible as if spoken in a small room to one person, he said, "I have been to my Father and your Father.

It was needed that I should go away; but I have come again as I said, in the glory of my Father and his holy angels. Ye have had sorrow; but now ye rejoice, and your joy no man any more taketh from you. It is written, "In the midst of my brethren will I sing praise, Now, praise our God, all you his servants." Then he ceased: an electric spasm of joy seemed to pass through the assembly.

There was a rustle, and a preparation, and a fixing of attention on Christ. He lifted his hand, and as if by an inspiration, the whole assembly took the lead from him, and broke into a transport of tumultuous and glorious sound. Every energy was strained to the utmost. Mortal nerves could not have stood it; but the assembly of the immortals seemed to revel and gather increasing strength with every higher and higher effort of musical strain.

"Blessing and honour and glory be unto him that sits upon the throne and unto the Lamb for ever. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, wisdom and honour, and glory and blessing. You have redeemed us to God by your blood, and have made us unto our God, kings and priests, and we shall reign with you upon the earth. The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of the Lord and His Messiah, and he shall reign for ever and ever.

