

Letters: Mr. David Dickson, His Brother-in-Law (1)

by Andrew Bonar

God's sovereignty and goodness are evident in His allowance of affliction, which can be a catalyst for prayer and deeper faith.

Scripture: Psalm 103:14, Lamentations 3:33, Romans 8:28, Philippians 4:6-7, James 5:16

Topics: "Faith in Trials", "God's Comfort"

Description

Andrew Bonar writes a heartfelt letter to his brother-in-law David, expressing concern for David's ill son and encouraging him to find solace in God's love and purpose during this difficult time. He reassures David that God's afflictions are not given lightly and may serve to deepen their prayer life and reliance on Him. Bonar shares a touching story of a boy who, despite his illness, expressed faith in Christ, reminding David and Charlotte of the hope and peace found in trusting God.

Transcript

ABERNYTE, Saturday, 3rd August 1867. MY DEAR DAVID,--Your note was another cloud in our sky. I thought you had got better accounts of your dear boy. But if the Lord is indeed threatening to let him continue with you only for a short time, be assured that all the while 'He doth not willingly afflict.' There must be some real and special blessing on its way to Charlotte and you, and what if this illness be, after all, rather to quicken you both in prayer. Remember 'He made as though He would go farther,' all in order to draw out the desire and get expression of their importunate earnestness from the disciples.

I will try to keep you much in mind, asking for Jamie, whether spared longer or shorter time, the faith of a boy of his own age of whom I heard here.

The boy calmly spoke of his Saviour and pointed upwards. 'My place is ready.' And then as his father held his hand, 'Father, you must let my hand go, and take hold of Christ's instead.' Dear Charlotte, 'He knoweth our frame.' --Your affectionate brother, ANDREW A. BONAR.

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