

Purified in God's Love

by Mary Wilder Tileston

The sermon emphasizes the importance of being purified by God's love, reflecting the Image of Christ, and being removed from the furnace of sin.

Scripture: Psalm 66:10, Proverbs 17:3, Zechariah 13:9, Malachi 3:3, 1 Peter 1:7

Topics: "Spiritual Purification", "Sanctification"

Description

Mary Wilder Tileston, through the analogy of refining silver and gold, emphasizes the meticulous process of purification that God undertakes in our lives. Just as a refiner carefully watches the metal until it reflects his image like a mirror, Jesus, as the Refiner, attentively oversees the purification of our souls on earth. The fire of trials and challenges separates the pure metal of holiness from the dross of sin within us, with Jesus eagerly awaiting the moment when the purifying work is complete. The ultimate goal of this refining process is for the Image of Christ to be fully reflected in us, signifying the completion of our purification. Tileston encourages us to lift our eyes amidst the flames and behold Jesus' compassionate gaze, filled with tender pity and intense love.

Transcript

I will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried.

ZECHARIAH 13:9

AS the purifying process is carried on, "the refiner watches the operation, with the greatest earnestness, until the metal has the appearance of a highly polished mirror, reflecting every object around it: even the refiner, as he looks upon the mass of metal, may see himself as in a looking-glass, and thus he can form a very correct judgment respecting the purity of the metal. When he is satisfied, the fire is withdrawn, and the metal removed from the furnace." See Jesus, as the Refiner, watching "with the greatest earnestness" the purifying of thy soul in the furnace of earth. His hand has lighted the fire which is now separating the pure metal of holiness from the dross of sin in thee. His loving eye is ever eagerly watching for the moment when the purifying work is done. Then, without a moment's delay, He withdraws the fire, and the purified soul is removed from the furnace. See, again, when it is that the purification is completed; it is when the Image of Christ is reflected in us, so that He can see Himself in us as in a mirror. Raise your eyes, then, amidst the flames, and see the Face of Jesus watching you with the tender pity and intense interest of His love.

GEORGE BODY

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