

September 21

Amos 6: 1: Woe to them that are at ease in Zion.

Brethren, can we say we have ever been at ease since God called us by his grace? Indeed, we have sweet rest in our Savior from all our vain works. We rejoice that our labors are done in seeking to make ourselves righteous. God has made us to submit to the righteousness of God, Christ Jesus. We know that we have the promise of God to keep us so that we can rest from fear of falling away. In this way, indeed, our soul dwells at ease.

But, since the Lord called us we have experienced nothing like ease when it comes to our continual battle with our flesh, our sin and this world. Lord, do not let us become at ease when it comes to these spiritual enemies. May we ever be fighting the fight of faith. We hate sin, we hate struggle and pain, but how good it is to feel the plague of our sin, to hate it and despise it, to mourn that it is against our God. At least then we are drawing near to Christ, at least then we are seeking his abiding presence, at least then we are forced to look away from ourselves to Christ alone. All carnal ease where there is no sin to bother us, no world to tempt us, where all seems wonderful and the conscience is never seeking the smile of God is a most dangerous place to be. As much as sin and this world and Satan are a thorn, when we are weak we are strong for then we are looking to Christ alone. We would rather be utterly weak with Christ as our strength than to live in ease without him.