

**SUNRISE GLEAMS; OR,
EARLY MORNING
READINGS FOR EVERY
DAY IN THE MONTH**

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Sunrise Gleams; Or, Early Morning Readings for Every Day in the Month by Elizabeth Reid Hope (Lady Hope)

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ELIZABETH REID HOPE (LADY HOPE)

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BY

LADY HOPE OF CARRIDEN.



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P R E F A C E.



"THE DAYSPRING FROM ON HIGH HATH VISITED US.
TO GIVE LIGHT TO THEM THAT SIT IN DARKNESS
AND IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH, TO GUIDE OUR
FEET INTO THE WAY OF PEACE" (Luke i. 78, 99).

If there be a SUN shining for us, let us go forth and meet His rays; and let us be early in our upward look—lest the daylight fade, and its dawn glow into meridian, and its meridian turn to twilight, and twilight into midnight, and our steps be dark and troubled, and our hearts sink beneath a gloom that *night* have been sunlight! Let us take the *initiative* with each twenty-four hours that is lent to us here. Thereby Satan shall be resisted, and the Master found. Honour in His service, joy in His presence, comfort in His love, purity through His Spirit—may these be ours! and to Him shall be the praise!

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SUNRISE GLEAMS.



FIRST DAY.

SUNRISE.

"Unto you that fear My Name shall the Sun of Righteousness
arise with healing in His wings."—MALACHI iii. 2.

"UNTO you that fear My Name . . . the SUN of Righteousness . . . arise . . . healing in His wings (or rays)." Grand thoughts! great promises! If by ANY personal effort or arrangement, we could effect a system of DAILY sunshine, bright, and glowing, in our northern land, which of us is there who would not have our windows brightened by it? There would be no more fogs, no more cloudy mornings, no misty days. The darkness of many a long winter would vanish, and snow and frost would melt away beneath the power of A NEW SYSTEM. Light we all need, our very nature loves it, we crave

for it. Light, received mentally, bodily, and spiritually, is essential to our well-being. When the sun is shining, we draw up the blind, open our window, walk in our garden, enjoy its rays. When the dark clouds cover the brightness, we do not say, "Oh! the sun has gone!" No! we say, "The clouds have come." And from whence have they come? From OUR OWN EARTH. They have risen up from amongst US and screened out the ever-shining sun-rays. The sun is always there. The sun is always shining. But as our earth turns to and from it, we have an experience no less marvellous than constant—we call this experience sunrise and sunset.

We need a sunrise for our hearts to-day! How can we obtain it? By entering into the promise. By taking God at His word. By kneeling down with His own "SHALL" on our lips, and there pleading with Him who is the very essence of light to be *our* light to-day. Nay, *more!* we may ask—that *now*, while we are praying, He may be our Light. Now! not by and by—though we may ask this too, if we will. But *the present time* is His time for such gifts. So do not let us hurry over this precious little hour, or we may just miss His gift. Let us *wait* before Him; nor rise with tearful eyes,

and our hearts uttering the sad words, "There is no sunrise for *me* to-day!"

The Sun of Righteousness loves to shine, for in His shining there is LIFE. Shall He shine upon *you*? Then draw near to Him—nearer still. Open your heart's window to the light. Do you still say, "I cannot. No! *I cannot* get the blessing. I cannot even open my own window. I cannot gain the light"? Then wait before Him, *with* Him, *near* Him. Let HIM open the window. Let HIM shine in. Let HIM do it all, for He is "able." If *you* do not get the blessing, some one else will get it. Oh! have your share! When I was a girl, I happened to be staying with some friends amidst lovely scenery. Early one morning, *midnight* I thought it was—I was wakened by an earnest, gentle touch upon my shoulder. I turned away, but no! that touch was not to be resisted. A pleading voice spoke in my ear—"Oh! do get up; come and see the sunrise—it is so beautiful!" "What is it like?" I asked, still slothfully disinclined to move. "Oh! I *cannot* TELL you!" said my friend; "you *must* COME AND SEE for yourself." I got up, wrapped myself in a dressing-gown, and followed her to an adjoining room. There, from the open window, I