OUR DAILY HOMILY, VOL. IV: ISAIAH-MALACHI

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Our daily homily, Vol. IV: Isaiah-Malachi by F. B. Meyer

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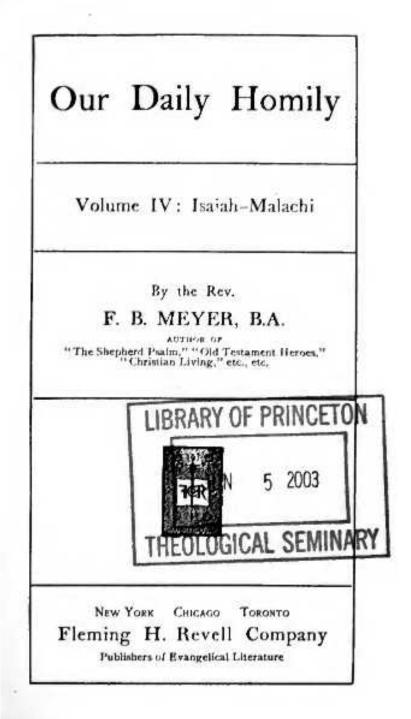
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Our Daily Homily

Volume IV: Isaiah-Malachi









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"THE Scriptures are well called Holy Scriptures; and though assailed by camp, by battery, and by mine, they are, nevertheless, an house built upon a rock, and that rock impregnable. The weapon of offence which shall impair their efficiency for aiding in the redemption of mankind has not yet been forged. And the Sacred Canon, which it took (perhaps) two thousand years from the accumulations of Moses, down to the acceptance of the Apocalypse to construct, is like to wear out the storms and the sunshine of the world, and all the wayward aberrations of humanity, not merely for a time as long, but until time shall be no more."

The late W. E. GLADSTONE.









OUR DAILY HOMILY

I will purge away thy dross, and take away all thine alloy. Isa. i. 25 (B. V., marg.).

THE silver had become dross. Jerusalem, the chosen city, was filled with infidelity, formalism, impurity, and deeds of violence. She had been full of judgment, righteousness had lodged in her; but now, murderers. And this was the reason for the blows that had fallen upon her with such unsparing force. The whole land was now desolate; the cities burned with fire; only a small remnant of the people was left. The prophet, his patriot heart wrung with grief, compares her to a sick man in the last stage of disease, the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint; from the sole of the foot, even unto the head, there is no soundness in it. Would it not be well for us to search our hearts, and ask whether there may not be some counterpart to this in our declension from our God, and the consequent suffering to which we have been brought? He loves us too well to allow the process of deterioration to go unchecked.

But here the Almighty Lover of His people resolves to bring His hand to the work of entire purging and cleansing. He will no longer simply punish. He will take away the men who had been His adversaries and enemies from the midst of His people, thoroughly purging away the dross and taking away all the tin. There is an immeasurable difference between punishing and refining. It is a great matter for the soul, when God ceases from the one and commences the other; and when we no longer suffer from the results of past sins, but are restored as at the first, and converted as at the beginning.