

Nature is thus animated as it were, to do Joseph homage, to give him protection, to extend his empire, to minister to his delight; the grove becomes vocal, the bullock treads stately thru the plain, the unicorn pushes with the horn, nations of enemies melt before him; the ten-thousands of Ephraim, the thousands of Manasseh cultivate their fertile peaceful fields, beautify their pleasant villages, fortify their magnificent cities.

*"By Jacob's death-bed two fair boys bent down---
So bend two wildflowers where the dark firs rise;
Fell first upon the younger's golden crown
Faith's blessing sunlight-wise."*

Adapted---From an old Bible circa 1823

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BEECHERISM'S

There is no such thing as preaching patience into people, unless the sermon is so long that they have to practise it while they hear. No man or woman can learn patience except by going out into the hurly-burly world, and talking life just as it blows. Patience is but lying to in the rough sea, and riding out the gale.

It is one of the worst effects of prosperity to make a man a vortex instead of a fountain; so that, instead of giving out, he learns only to draw in.

The clearest window that ever was fashioned, if it is barred by spider webs, and hung over with carcasses of insects, so that the sunlight has forgotten to find its way through, of what use can it be? Now if the Church be God's window and if it is so obscured by errors that its light is darkness, how great is that darkness!

The many superfluous blossoms on a fruit tree are meant to symbolize the large way in which God loves to do pleasant things.

A LIE always needs a truth for a handle to it, else the hand would cut itself which sought to drive it home upon another. The worst lies, therefore, are those whose blade is false, but whose handle is true.

Some people are like pyramids, which are very broad where they touch the ground, but grow narrower as they reach the sky.

They are not reformers who simply abhor evil. Such people become in the end abhorrent themselves.

LIBERTY is the soul's right to breathe, and when it cannot take a good long breath, laws are girdled too tight.

The stream of life forks; and religion is apt to run in one channel, and business in another.

From: LIFE THOUGHTS By Henry Ward Beecher

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