



Extract From the Journal of John Wesley

Sunday March 12th, 1749 after preaching at Freshford near Bath the previous day

After preaching at five, I rode to Bearfield, and preached there between eight and nine, and about one at Seend; Mrs Andrews, the wife of a neighbouring Clergyman, afterwards invited me to his house; (in her husband's name,) the I found "an hoary, reverend and religious man;" the very sight of whom struck me with awe: He told me, "His only son, about nine years ago, came to her me preach at Bearfield; he was then in the flower of his age, but remarkable above his years, both for piety, sense, and learning; he was clearly and deeply convinced of the truth, but returned home ill of the small-pox. Nevertheless, he praised God for having been there, rejoiced in a full sense of his love, and triumphed more and more over sickness, pain and death, till his soul returned to God. He said, "He had loved me ever since, and greatly desired to see me; and that he blessed God he had seen me once before he followed his dear son into eternity." At five I preached at Bearfield again. This day I was wet from morning to night, with the continued rain; but I found no manner of inconvenience.