

WHAT GOD IS TO US IN CHRIST.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ, according as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love." &c., &c.

EPHESIANS I.

There are two ways in which we may look at our relationship to God. First, our coming to Him; and secondly, our souls looking at the dealings of God towards us.

Of Abel, it is said, by the Holy Spirit, God had respect unto his gifts—he came with the needed offering. We are looked at in Hebrews as drawing near to God. Who could draw near unless he could bring Christ as an offering? We must have that sacrifice in order to bring us near, consequently in that case our relationship to God is measured by our need. We come near because we find we cannot do without it, and we accept that offering as needed to accomplish it.

In another way, the measure of God's blessing we never know *until we look on our relationship as measured by God's thoughts of us—by all that which He loves to display, when He satisfies His own heart of grace with His ways of showing it out.* We never enjoy our true blessing unless we see how He thus feels and acts. *My mind must rise above what I am, to what God is:* then it is my mind is formed by