

not I," when called to meet some of the many claims of want and sorrow wherein this earth abounds. He undertakes it all for us, even as when He said to penniless and perplexed Peter : " That take and give for Me and thee."

" Yet not I," when in the hour of prayer I feel cold and dead and prayerless. " His Spirit maketh intercession for us." " Therefore, however it go," says the holy Leighton, " continue praying . . . and forget not that the ready way to rise out of this sad state is to be much in viewing the Mediator, and interposing Him between the Father's view and thy soul. He hath declared it : ' No man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.' "

" Yet not I," in the conflict with our fierce and untiring foes, the world, the flesh, and the devil. " Ye shall not need to fight in this battle : be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude ; for the battle is not yours, but God's." How are we sinners to reach this safe and blessed standing-place? Even by learning to say, with true penitence and faith, " I have sinned ; yet not I ;" " He became sin for me, who knew no sin ;" " He loved me, and gave Himself for me." From the hour we rest our hearts in this His full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, it is our glorious right to say yet further : " Not I, but Christ for me, stands in the presence of God ; for I am become the righteousness of God in Him." " Perfect through His comeliness which He hath put upon them," do His ransomed brethren appear in His Father's sight.

"So dear, so very dear to God,
Dearer they cannot be ;
For in the person of His Son
They are as dear as He."

Therefore is this precious " Yet not I " a shield of faith from all fear, not only concerning the trials of the present and the sins of the past, but the solemn prospects of the future ; the hour of death, the day of judgment. " Have you no fear at the thought of appearing before God ?" one asked a poor old Christian regress on her death-bed