

and when he entered those gorgeous halls, he saw nothing else, thought of nothing else, than his beloved, as he fell on his neck with tears of unutterable joy.

"And yet this simplest view of Heaven, on which all can repose, urges to the contemplation of what it involves. Our being with Christ evidently infers fellowship with Him. It must be so. Only think, —that you or I, or any one we love, shall, during the life of God, world without end, be like Christ! And yet this is implied in going to Heaven, in being happy, in being with Christ! and there is no neutral ground between this and a soul unlike Christ in everything, and full of all evil."

OBSERVE, ALSO, HEAVEN'S DESCRIPTION OF THE CONDITION OF THE SAINTED DEAD. They are blessed, for they die *prepared for the presence of the Lord*. They were the followers of Jesus while on earth, and they are now prepared not only for His presence at His solemn tribunal, but to stand before His mediatorial throne amid the glories of His Heaven. There is worship in His presence: and they are prepared to engage in that worship; to serve Him day and night in His temple, and to sing glory, and honour, and praise, and power, unto Him that sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever.

In the hour of death He will come to receive them to Himself. His angels will minister unto them—the light of His countenance will shine upon them—breezes from the land of Beulah will refresh them—the glory-summit of Mount Zion will rise on their view, and, attended by the shining ones, they will pass over the river, and enter the presence of Jesus. It was thus with departed saints, and some of you have witnessed this, for you have seen the followers of Jesus in dying circumstances. How gradually