

to vex them more! This is Faith's triumph over death—this the immortal prize which Christ promised to bestow on his people—this the blessed destiny awaiting them, that, the sting of death being removed, the grave is deprived of its victory, because death is the last enemy, and even “death itself shall die;” for as the text, rising to the climax of its great announcement, further declares—“Death, the last enemy, *shall be destroyed.*”

What a glorious consummation—death *destroyed!* In one sense that victory over death is even now virtually accomplished. Death was conquered by Christ the Lord, when He cast off the fetters of the grave, and rose triumphant from the dark prison-house where for three days his body was entombed. The iron sceptre of the king of terrors lay broken beside the place where the Lord lay; and when the divine Saviour left behind him an empty tomb, he carried with him the keys of death and of hell. It was a victory, not for himself alone, but for his followers—for whom he deprived death of its sting and the grave of its victory: for he giveth them eternal life, “and none is able to pluck them out of his hand.”

The reversal of death is *life*—life restored, and in this case rendered *immortal!* Centuries may have elapsed since there passed