

than as son. Of this Jesus gave a kind intimation when he said to those who reported to him that his mother was without, and wished to see him. Looking around on his disciples, he said, "behold my mother and my brethren." This seems to teach,—not that he had left his love for his mother,—but that he had taken all his disciples in the same close circle of his affections as his mother. At another time he said, "In heaven they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels." James and John were sons of Zedeebe, and therefore brothers; yet they were both apostles. And it would not seem strange if, as they came to realize the great honor and responsibility they had from our Lord in being the authoritative teachers of his gospel, the foundation builders of the church of the new covenant, that this fellowship of work, and the fellowship in Christ out-ranked all other relations, and John the fellow apostle was dearer to James than John the brother. But this we can leave to him who loved us and gave his life for us. Among the writings I have seen of late is this sentence, "God never does anything which a man would not do if he knew as much as God." The results will justify the ways of God.

But let us consider another truth of the text.

We shall be with the Lord forever.

Brethren, we know what it is to get a glimpse of Christ by faith. We have sometimes been with a few of his people when we all had such a sense of his goodness and glory that we felt like lengthening out the hours. Did not our heart burn within us while we