

blessedness. Redemption, which brings us to God, is finished ; we are exercised afterwards— all that goes on, but our relationship is never in question. I believe the government of God is most important when we are children. “ He withdraweth not His eyes from the righteous ” (Job xxxvi. 7). This is most important and blessed in its place ; but the great thing is, first of all, to have a right apprehension of the place where God has put us. The very names of God go along with this. To the patriarchs He was “ God Almighty,” when they were strangers and pilgrims ; to Abraham He said, “ I am thy shield, and thine exceeding great reward ” (Gen. xv.). To Israel He had given promises, and He takes the name of Jehovah, the name of One who, having given promises, never rests until they are fulfilled. Then, in the Revelation, He speaks of Himself as the One “ who is, and who was, and who is to come ” (Rev. i. 8). All that was concerned, in a certain sense, with this world ; but it is not so with us. We are called to suffer with Christ (because Christ has been rejected), and this with the full knowledge of redemption. “ And I have declared unto them Thy name, and will declare it, that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them ” (John xvii. 26). God has another name, “ Most High.” You never find the name “ Father ” from Psalm i. to cl. “ And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ,