

in you, which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also has highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in Heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father."

The Lord Jesus Christ was born, in a sense, without a will of His own. Hear His words: "Not My will but Thine be done." "Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of Me, I delight to do Thy will, O My God: Yea, Thy law is within My heart." Well, if Christ's will was subordinated to His Father's will, surely our will also ought so to be.— "This is the will of God even your sanctification."

Now it was His Father's will that He should be born in a stable with the oxen lowing by, that He should live a life of the greatest hardship and self-denial, and that He should die the cruel death of the cross.

Therefore, the Lord Jesus delighted so to live; delighted so to die—and all for the sins of rebel men. In Nazareth and elsewhere, He lived for us, keeping the Law, and on Calvary He died, paying the Law's righteous demands. And during one of His most solemn hours on earth, at a time of extreme sorrow, He gave thanks—thanks that He could make His soul an offering for sin—thanks that He could give His body a curse for the iniquities of men.

Whilst He could have been cradled in gold, lying on down, His first cradle was but a manger, and His bed, methinks, was only Judean grass. But He knew it all from