

It is most blessed to have the inheritance beneath our feet, but it is much more blessed to have fellowship with God as our Father above us. We have poor foolish hearts needing to be exercised ; but still we have accomplished glory, accomplished righteousness, and all in virtue of the accomplished work of Christ, so that our hearts bow before Him. The reason of all this blessedness is—" That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus " (Eph. ii. 7). The more faithfulness there is in us, the more sorrow doubtless ; but then there will be consolations abounding (2 Cor. i. 5, 7). Only let us take up the cross, and if it be really the cross, we shall find Jesus with it, and the earnest and spring of glory in our hearts.

The power then which delivers us from wrath, from sin and from Satan, is the resurrection of Christ in virtue of His accomplished righteousness, and thus we are brought into fellowship with Him. Our portion, whether in suffering down here or in glory up there, is all in Christ, as the One risen from the dead. The Lord keep our hearts full of rejoicing, through the Spirit mortifying the deeds of the body, and as being dead to law, sin and the world (cf. Rom. viii. 13 ; vii. 4 ; vi. 2-11 ; Gal. ii. 19, 20 ; vi. 14). We live to God in the same power in which Christ lives (Eph. i. 19, 20 ; ii. 4-6). The Lord give us thankful hearts for His unspeakable mercy.