

Christ. If He lives, we also live together with Him : " Because I live, ye shall live also " (John xiv. 19). If He is the righteousness of God, we are " made the righteousness of God in Him " (2 Cor. v. 21). If He is the Heir of glory, we are " joint-heirs with Christ " (Rom. viii. 17), and " where He is, there shall we be also " (John xiv. 3). If He is the Son, we are sons also : " I ascend unto My Father, and your Father " (John xx. 17). We are put, through grace, into this wonderful place of sons ; so that it is a real thing ; and having thus been brought by adoption from a state of sin to that of sons, the Holy Ghost is given to us as the power of our enjoyment of it. Such is the marvellous place into which we are brought, even that of everlasting companionship with Christ, " members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones " (Eph. v. 30). Man down here on earth " disquieteth himself in vain " (Ps. xxxix. 6) ; for wonderful as his natural faculties may be, as soon as " his breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth, in that very day his thoughts perish " (Ps. cxlvi. 4). What then becomes of his wondrous faculties ? All is gone ; for there is no fruit whatever reaped by himself. The man may have directed the world, but what of that, if death comes in and writes nothingness on all his powers ? Another may come after him and improve upon what he has done, but it is all gone as regards himself for ever, although the man has a moral responsibility in connection with it all.