

he can walk according to his privileges. Because here we are in a world of temptation and evil, and we have got the flesh, that the devil is always seeking to draw us aside by ; and how is a person, walking in the midst of temptation with the flesh there and the devil too, to walk according to this heavenly condition in which he has been put ? The first thing is to know what the privilege is. The apostle was made to enjoy it in an extraordinary manner ; but the place which he gives to himself is one which, in principle, belongs to every Christian. The title that took Paul to the third heaven takes all there. We do not realize it now to the extent that he did, but still that title gives us our place there. We are come to God in glory now ; that is the place that is given to us. And therefore he says, I do not talk about Paul—" I know a man in Christ." I do not get a man in the flesh, but a man in Christ. That is where the Spirit of God sets a Christian. It is the place of every believer. They may have great exercises of heart before getting there ; but where He sets them is not in the flesh, but in Christ. This is not the flesh, it is the glory at the right hand of God. A man in the flesh cannot be there.

Where the apostle says, " When we were in the flesh " (Rom. vii.), he means that we are so no longer ; it is a past thing. If I say, When I was in Bristol I did so and so, it means that I am not there now. In that way it is he says, " When we were in the flesh." He had had the commandment, and might