

grace and mercy ; but that I may know Him in the power of His resurrection ; what it is now to have to do with Him who, when here upon earth, said : " I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how am I straitened till it be accomplished ! " To have to do with Him who is now unstraitened in all His desires ; He has passed through it, and is now on the other side of death and judgment ; to know what it is to be taken up by Himself, at His cost, at His charge every moment of our time down here, that He may express out of such a thing as I am what can conduce to His glory.

But how soon a kind of cloud comes over that ! Something of self comes in. How soon a cloud or mist comes over it, and we turn away from it, and we look at other things, and we think things ought to be so and so, and like this, or like that. And so they ought to be, perhaps. But He knows a great deal more about it than you and I do, and He looks for subjection to His hand. He looks for us to be in His Hand, that in the midst of all these things, He may express from us and through us, what is to His honour and glory.

It is true, we are in the school, but it is a blessed school. I think, it was said, if we are not good at school, we are not good at home. Had we not better put it the other way ? The one who is good at home, will be good at school ; we must begin at home first. Here is the secret of all good conduct. In the school we are tested, the heart is tested, and failure appears, and this is the reason—we are not, in our inmost souls, right with Himself, not walking in simplicity and uprightness, not walking as the apostle says here of himself, really clear of everything but this one blessed Object before him : " That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection," and here in this world " the fel-