

meet Him even at the threshold, and at once make over into His keeping the keys of all the locked chambers of your heart? Let *every* door be thrown wide open, that He may take possession, as the Lord and the Master; and let Him alone choose all the guests who shall henceforward be invited there.

Does it seem to you too poor a home to be offered to Him? Remember—and take courage—it is just what He has asked for; and that He makes it His own concern to transform the darkened ruin into a temple full of His own light and glory.

And the heart that has once crowned Him as its King can never be at rest again without His known and enjoyed presence, or in allowing any rival to usurp, even for a day, the throne where now He reigns. Far beyond all other calamities, it will dread any withdrawing of the light of His countenance, and break, however short, in the blessed communion which, by the indwelling and transforming power of the Holy Spirit, has become its dearest and highest joy.

“For O, my Lord, on life’s highway,
I crave the sunshine of Thy face;
And every moment of the day
I need Thy strong, supporting grace.”

But to maintain this sacred union, there must be no reserve on any subject between ourselves and our Saviour; there must be perfect openness and perfect trust; it ceases to be enjoyed, in a moment, if

“Love in unbelieving mood,
Deserteth His celestial height.”

Let us then surrender our whole being to Him; let us tell Him every thought and feeling; let us share with Him each hope and fear, each joy and sorrow, as they arise in our hearts. Thus, living in His presence, we shall not only speak and act as the sons and daughters of the King Eternal, when we are in the society of other members of the Royal Family of Heaven, but we shall also seek to be wholly consecrated to God, at all times, and in every company, in hours of mirth and gladness no less than in days of sorrow, claiming His promise, “Lo, I am with you alway.”

Above all, let us TRUST HIM to do that which He tells us He is “able” to do—“to keep us from falling.” Let no chill-

ing doubt check the prayer, the confidence, and the pledge of the Psalmist, as it rises from our souls:—“Hold Thou me up, and I shall be safe; and I will have respect unto Thy statutes continually.”

Perhaps you shrink from going so far? You cannot trust Him to keep you from sinning, from this hour until the hour of your death.

Does He ask you to do so?

“*Now*” is God’s time for the saint’s sanctification as emphatically as for the sinner’s justification. *To-day* is as truly the day of salvation for the saint, from the dominion of sin, as for the sinner, from its condemnation.

Can you trust Him *for this moment* to keep you from sinning? Then let each moment, as it passes, be the moment for trusting Him.

It is not that our need will grow less—to the end there will be the old nature, the body of this death, ever ready to assert itself. But this, although our bitterest trial upon earth, should not cause us to despond; for, great as the need is, the supply of grace is as inexhaustible as the treasury of Heaven itself. The highway to it is Prayer, and the golden key is Trust. The promise stands sure—“My God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

“*By Christ Jesus.*” In those three words it is revealed to us how such a miracle is possible, as that God’s riches in glory can be flowing, in constant fullness, into any human heart. It is through union with Christ Jesus, who blends in His nature the Manhood with the Godhead. Thus “all things are yours,” if “ye are Christ’s,” for “Christ’s is God’s.”

And whilst through all eternity, we shall never lose sight of Him as the Lamb that has been slain, to redeem us to God by His blood; yet, even now, we are called and bidden, nay, urged, to rise higher than the first level of being pardoned and saved, wondrous as the blessing of that salvation is. We are charged to “walk worthy of God”—to “be holy, for He is holy.”

We are invited, also, to enjoy a perfect sympathy with the Bridegroom of our souls; to have a complete oneness of interest with Him in all that concerns His Kingdom and glory; as well as to