

power of the Holy Ghost. We are *for Himself*, and shall be *with Himself*. It cannot be anything short of this, for He calls us "His body." What a glorious place this is! Not merely *wonderful*, but glorious identification with the Christ of God! No explanation of prophetic Scripture, however nice and true it may be, however useful as a solemn warning as regards this world, can ever take the place in the soul that is taught of God, of knowing its living union with a coming Jesus, of the present waiting for Himself. No mere explanation of His coming as a doctrine is the proper hope of the saint. That hope is not prophecy; it is the real, and blessed, and sanctifying expectancy of a soul that knows Jesus, and waits to see and be with Himself.

The bride hears the voice of the Bridegroom, which at once calls out the expression of her desire of His coming. To this He responds, assuring her of it, and then the revelation closes, leaving this as her own expectation, whatever He may have previously communicated to her concerning the judgment, to which she does not belong. The Lord Jesus is represented as departing Himself, and coming and taking His bride to be with Him. Then, when the world is saying, "Peace and safety," sudden destruction cometh upon them, and they shall not escape.

Paul closes (1 Thes. iv.) with these words, "So shall we ever be with the Lord." And is that all? Yes, that is all; for to the heart that has learnt