

and lead lives of faith on the Son of God. Let your life here be a true preparation for the life hereafter. And thus, when death overtakes you, it will be as a disarmed foe—unable to “separate you from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The text, which pronounces death to be the last enemy, speaks also to humble Christians. For the true, the consistent, the faithful followers of the Lord Jesus it predicts the happy issue of their trials. It assures them that though here and now they are beset with difficulties, or overwhelmed with troubles, or pierced with many sorrows, as they fight the “good fight,” “resisting the devil,” and maintaining unflinching opposition to all their spiritual foes, yet that assuredly their deliverance draweth nigh! Earnests and foretastes of it they have already had in the grace that upheld them in their spiritual warfare as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, but now that warfare approaches its close. There is one enemy still awaiting them. Stern may be its aspect, repulsive its mien, and painful the wounds it can inflict. But this enemy is the *last* they shall have to encounter. Fall, they doubtless must, under its attack; but then comes the hour of their triumph! Through the portals of the tomb their path