

totally lost in the first and old man, and having bowed to this solemn truth, as shewn and learned in the cross, *he is sealed* with the Holy Ghost, livingly united to the Lord, one Spirit. He is a man in Christ, not in the flesh, or in the first Adam. All that is closed for him in the cross, where Christ made Himself responsible for him in respect of it and died unto sin once; and he is alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. He belongs to a new creation, having the life of the Head of it as his life. Where he learnt the utter total condemnation of what he was, he learnt its total and eternal putting away.

THE SPIRIT, NOT OF FEAR BUT OF POWER.

2 Tim. i. 3-8.

Such exhortations are never given unless there are circumstances to require it. They are intended to meet some tendency in the flesh, that we may guard against it in the Spirit. It is well to remember how the Lord deals with us, just as we are; how, in all His ways, He takes into account the circumstances we are in, and does not, like philosophy, take us into other circumstances.

With regard to our cares and trials, Christ does not take us out of them. "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world." While He leaves us in the world, He leaves us liable to all