

Luke, that thou hast no merits of thine own to plead ; that thou hast nothing wherewith to pay thy creditor ; that nought save frank forgiveness can meet thy case ? If so, thou hast been divinely taught and *now, now*, not on thy dying day but *now, this very moment*, mayest thou be given to say of and for thine own self : " In whom " (that is in God's Beloved, see Eph. i. 7) " we have redemption *through His blood*, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace."

This sufferer had been brought into the light, and God had shined in his heart some years before he passed through the last of his many sicknesses, but not until the earthly house was being broken up, did the light shine out again in all its own brilliancy.

And to the grace that bore with him all the while the divinely given life had lain almost dormant in his soul, he testified in words like these : " The Lord has been so good and gracious to me all the time, and has kept the little corn of wheat always alive in spite of all my sad, sad career, and now He is sifting, sifting, sifting, and *He would* have the finest of the wheat for Himself, and He will get it."

The grace that called and that bore with the called one, never giving him up, maintained him in brightness to the close. " Lord Jesus, take *THY* weary one home," being among the last utterances—himself the while in great pain and feebleness, but what a contrast to that which shall be shortly ; weariness, pain and feebleness all gone, and bearing the image of the heavenly," to take up in full eternal unmeasured

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