

put out ; but they were so used to see evil everywhere around them, that they did not feel it. It is different with us ; for we have been brought up to feel and judge everything by a sort of moral light that has been in the world since Christianity has been professed. But they had been always accustomed to uncleanness ; they had corrected things in the main ; but still the apostle was trembling about them. "I am afraid lest when I come again. . . I shall be found such as ye would not." I shall be found very severe with you. I may come with a rod—he trembled lest he should be forced to exercise this kind of severity towards those who had not repented.

We get, then, in the beginning of the chapter, the extreme to which a Christian can go in spirituality ; and, in the end of it, the extreme to which he can go in the flesh. Such is the awfulness of the evil that remains in us, even us Christians ; and, on the other hand, the blessedness to which a man can be carried in spiritual enjoyment. Of course, it is not that every one goes up into the third heaven ; but all have the blessedness, on the one hand, of a man in Christ ; and, on the other, the incorrigible wickedness of the flesh. I do not say of a man in the flesh, for that is not a christian state at all. We see what the place of a Christian is, looked at in his privileges, and then what he is, looked at in his path down here ; how it is that a person, with the possibility of all this infirm-ty, if he is not walking watchfully, and how it is that