

ing leaves form the portion of the nations, while we feed and revel upon the luscious fruit of the tree of life in the paradise of God (chapter xxii. 2) No polluted stream flows through the heavenly land. The pure river of water of life has its source in the throne of God and of the Lamb. Why the throne? Because of its governmental display. The crystal, a native production, is the chosen symbol to set forth the transparent water of eternal life, which in source, power, and character of enjoyment is divine. The city and its street of gold has the transparency of glass—a manufactured article.

“They shall see His face.” O Lord, Thou hast kept the best wine till now? More precious by far than the heaped-up glories and splendours of the kingdom. We will draw near to Jesus. We will look upon the very face on which the disgusting spittle of man once rested; then radiant with the glory of God.

Will we not then sound the depths of His love, as we admiringly gaze upon His face and hear His voice—the voice of Him who spake as never man spake; oh, those unscathed heights, those measureless breadths! Blessed Lord, the rapturous thought that we are about to pass into Thy very presence, to bear Thy name eternally on our holy brows (v. 4), to hear the tale of love from Thine own very lips, to talk with Thee about the scenes of Calvary, as did Moses and Elias (Luke ix. 30, 31,) is all too much!

As thou revealest Thyself thus, oh, enlarge and strengthen the vessel! What precious talks and walks with our adorable and peerless Lord Jesus we will have! When will Isaac, and

Rebekah jewelled and adorned with His love gifts, meet? Why tarry the wheels of His chariot? Lord curb our impatient spirits. But our hearts are with Him now, and at His voice and shout we shall go up in the clouds to meet Him in the air (1 Thess. iv.)—
WALTER SCOTT.

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER.

The courage, patience, firmness, and zeal of a Christian, are a perfectly distinct order of character from the courage, firmness, patience, and zeal of a natural man—self-confidence, self-glory, self preservation, self-exaltation are the essential principles of one; confidence in God, self-renunciation, subjection to God, glory to God, abasement of self, being essential principles of the other. So that the essential principles that formed the character of Paul as a natural man, were destroyed through the cross, in order that his soul should imbibe the life of Christ, which was the principle that formed his character as a Christian, “I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.” Though Christ was a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered. In any instance that we give up our own will, without sacrificing conscience, we are gainers. If but my dog exercises my patience and makes me yield my will, he is a blessing to me. Christ never willed anything but what was good and holy; yet how often was His will thwarted, how often hindered in designs of good.
—J. N. D.

The teachings of God's Spirit is in the heart.