

as we are, not of this world, but heavenly beings sojourning on earth.

(2) He prays also that they may know "the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints." Not only have we obtained an inheritance in Christ, which is the hope of our calling, but He has also an inheritance in us. We are "His purchased possession"—for the redemption of which, He eagerly waits. It is a most marvelous thing that the mighty Son of God could have a personal interest in such creatures as we. We can understand how His infinite love and compassion might lead Him to provide a way whereby we might be saved. That might come from His pity for our lost and miserable condition. But having saved us, and brought us to heaven—as "brands, snatched from the burning," He surely could not place a personal value upon us. But here we are let into the secret of the great loving heart of our blessed Lord. Not only has He in mercy saved us—and for what?—we would praise and serve Him forever—but so precious and valuable are we to Him, that he speaks even of "the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints." It was because He saw the value to Himself of such "possessions," that long before the foundation of the world, He set His heart upon us, and chose us for Himself, and He has been working out the plan of our redemption ever since.

This is made to appear in many ways. We are "the pearl of great price," which our Lord, as the "Merchantman" found in His search, and to purchase it, "went and sold all that He had"—(Matt. 13:45-46). It is through the Church that in the ages to come, He is to display before "the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, the manifold wisdom of God" (chap.