

also for my salvation, stood at that moment, as it were, before the eyes of my spirit, as my Saviour and the Prince of Peace, wounded for my transgressions, and gave me a most convincing proof of his desire for my salvation; — and I obtained then a satisfactory evidence, that by one great act of grace he had forgiven me all my sin; and sanctified me for ever by his blood. All the sufferings of my beloved Saviour appeared most meritorious, even for me. All servile fear and dread vanished at once; for I felt, that with all my poverty and unworthiness, I was however His, and that He was mine!

What I now enjoyed as soon as this thought took possession of my breast, "Lord Jesus! is it possible, that thou canst thus love vile sinners?" and how intensely I now had the happiness to love him in return; this it is out of my power to express in words. It will suffice to declare its truth to those who have had the same blessed experience.

From that time also I was emancipated from the slavery of sin, which I was no longer constrained to serve, being now under grace; and the power of Christ proving stronger than my sinful depravity. Ever since that time I had but one object with my dear relations, to devote my life and all to Him who loved me, and gave himself for me. I proceeded for some time in faith and love, and truly fed on heavenly joys; inasmuch that it seemed at times nearly impossible for me, to support that weight of bliss, even in a foretaste here, in this body. I would much rather have immediately departed this life, and have been at home with the Lord. But he thought proper, in process of time, to shew me, by new discoveries of the sinfulness of my nature, the need of a daily renewed assurance of his pardoning love, and cleansing in his blood. And as our gracious Lord, from the beginning of my awakening, led me in a strict way, so that I judged myself with great severity, I might

easily have fallen into a legal course; if he had not at the same time guided me in the way of true evangelical sanctification, keeping me dependent upon his aid on every approach of sin, and shewing me that the fountain opened for sin and uncleanness must be continually resorted to; and that as we are at first saved by faith in his blood, so we are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. Thus, as I became more intimately acquainted with my depraved heart in all its secret recesses, true grace, through the blood of Jesus, shone more clearly into my soul with a cheering and heart-reviving lustre.

For some time past I had been afflicted with arthritic humours and pains; and was advised by my friends to use the baths at Radeberg, which I did in 1789, though without success. At first the school of affliction seemed to me rather hard, considering my youth; and I hoped yet to be relieved; but when I perceived, that I was to consider this illness as designed by my faithful Saviour to lead me in his bands of love, I made that same hour a covenant with him, that I would take it as sent by him, without repining at his dispensation; which covenant I trusted, his graces would enable me to keep. From that time I was perfectly satisfied that I should never be fully restored from this afflictive disorder.

Willing as I had ever been to use the ordinary means, which, at least, might procure me some alleviation, I was, at the same time, averse to all extraordinary and far fetched helps and medicines. I felt very sensibly, that my best and truest friend, with whom I was in a perfectly good understanding in this particular, would not take it amiss in me, altho' this might not be the case with a thousand other persons. That fine similitude, Malachi, iii. 2. "He is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap, was to me inexpressibly valuable. — Often did I sigh, O my Saviour! if the means, which it is needful for