

testimony to our love of Jesus, but also, and perhaps within the same half-hour, thoughts which are as unworthy as this strife among the disciples. This shows the folly and vanity of man's heart; he is but as the small dust of the balance.

The Lord, ever full of gentleness and meekness, forgets Himself in His care for His disciples, and says to them, "He that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger: and he that is chief, as he that doth serve." He knows how to teach them, by His own example what the love of God is; and at the same time, He shows them the grace which is in Him, and all the faithfulness for which they are indebted to Him. It is as though He had said, *Ye need not raise yourselves; My Father will raise you.* "Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations, and I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; that ye may eat and drink at my table, in my kingdom, and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." Instead of being irritated at the abominable conduct of His disciples, He shows them, that if there is no grace in men, there is grace in *one Man*, that is in Himself.

This grace is perfect in Jesus; and He places His disciples in it, whatever they may have been toward Him. He has fixed them firmly in the principle of grace, instead of the folly of the flesh, which had just shown itself among them; as though He had said, I am all grace towards you, and I trust the kingdom to you.