

the Bride herself in association with Christ in the government of the earth, her royal splendour, God crowning her with His glory, and her displayed triumphs in the victories of Her heavenly Bridegroom, her rest too in the rest of God are, in brief, the magnificent thoughts unfolded by the Spirit.

After her marriage, heaven opens and she comes out to show her beauty to an admiring world, but her feet will never again press in weariness the sands of the desert, nor will she mingle as before in the scenes of earth.—She rests over a redeemed and joyous world. Earth's night of agony is over, and her bosom thrills in joy as the Lamb smoothes its wrinkled brow. Many a furrow has gathered upon it these 6000 years. But she groans on in hope, and now the hour of her deliverance is come: the epoch being the manifestation in glory of the Sons of God (Rom. viii. 19.)

The coronation robes befit her exalted position as bride and wife to Him who is not only the Lamb—for He has loved her even unto death—but, see! many crowns rest upon the brow once wreathed with thorn, and she shares His heavenly and royal glory. Heaven is her home. God her source, and His glory her endowment (v. 10, 11.)

"The city was pure gold like unto clear glass" (v. 18.) She shines out in divine righteousness, the witness of what God is as "light" and "love." The clear glass intimates her unsullied and transparent purity without and within. The street of the city was pure gold as it were transparent glass" (verse 21) Divine righteousness is signified in the pure gold; now the righteousness of God is upon us (Rom.

iii. 22.) God has thrown His own character over us—He in His very nature is the strength and glory of our salvation. In the glory there will be no need of the laver and towel (John xiii. ;) no stain will ever rest upon the conscience, no cloud will ever oppress the spirit. Our feet will tread forever the street of pure gold; divine righteousness will then be beneath, and wrap us round and round in its plies and folds. What a future! No more sinning and grieving the heart of our blessed Lord! No more bodily weakness or night of sorrow! We will never come in contact with a defiled and defiling scene, nor will our vision ever be obscured by mist or cloud.

The city is measured and a perfect result announced (v. 16.) Jerusalem on earth will be measured by a line of flax (Ezek. xl.) but the heavenly city by a golden reed (Rev. xxi. 15.) God has predestinated us to be conformed to the image of His Son in glory, and here the grand result of that eternal purpose of the Son's love, and of the Spirit's education is witnessed. Tested and measured by Divine righteousness "the stature of the fulness of Christ is reached. No beautiful curtains as in the tabernacle of old will hide the Divine glory; nor "holiest" to confine His presence to a favoured few, for "I saw no temple therein" (v. 22) There will be no tree of knowledge of good and evil, all testing of responsibility will be over; but the tree of life, of which man in innocence and in sin never partook, now however promised to the overcomer, is surrounded by the saints in glory, for all there are overcomers. Its rich and constant supply of fruit will never fail. Life in abundance will be theirs. The never-wither-