

of life in Christ which worked in him. Their gain was in all his trouble, as he says, "but life in you."

"Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus." (Ver. 10). This is practically reckoning myself dead continually in order that the body may be simply a vessel through which the life of Jesus manifests itself. *If the body is anything but a vessel, it is sin.* When I walk as one dead with Christ, the flesh is not allowed a place. A person may even *cultivate* the flesh, making a provision for it (Rom. xiii. 14). but that is bad indeed! He is a bad gardener that cultivates the weeds!

He says (ver. 11), "always delivered unto death." (See also chap. i. 8-10). Here the circumstances Paul was in helped him the more completely to realise himself as dead with Christ. God makes Paul realise these things by the very circumstances he has to pass through, in order that the life also of Jesus might be manifested in his mortal body. Thus death wrought in the apostle: what was merely of man and natural life disappeared, in order that life in Christ, developing itself in him on the part of God, and by the power of God, should work in the Corinthians by his means. *The flesh must be kept down, and not allowed to move or act,* and when one is in earnest the Lord passes him through circumstances which help him in it. Paul learns in an honourable way, for if the circumstances were trying, they came upon him for Christ's sake. With us the Lord has often to send discipline, because we have been *allowing* the flesh.

"All things are for your sakes." (Ver. 15). What a wonderful thing for Paul to say! How