

gence. There is noticeable, in all the use of the the world by our blessed Lord—and, as already mentioned, he used it freely, being in the midst of its activities and engagements—an obvious subserviency to a higher life. He is genial and loving, and ready to converse; he is found at feasts and amid crowds: but everywhere and at all times you will see the cultivation, if we may so speak, of the higher and spiritual. This course may involve a conflict with corrupting usages; it may lead us into opposition to the world's people, and to some who profess not to be such; and, above all, it may require, again and again, the more difficult struggle which conquers one's own spirit, but it is the true use of it notwithstanding. And let it be our's to pray earnestly for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit that our use of the world may be in all things sanctified to this highest end.

It is a noble use of this world which makes it subservient to the attainment of a more blessed rest and glorious heaven. That there will be differences of degree in the bliss of the happy-land above, is clearly revealed, just as "one star differeth from another star in glory;" and as the ruler over ten cities hath more dignity than the ruler over five or two. Now it is a glorious use of this world which makes it subservient to highest attainment and to exalted seats in the new Jerusalem above. You may walk in it and take active part in all its movements, and yet may be so above it in spirit as to suffer no taint from its evil, and as to derive from its discipline spiritual blessings. The Mountains by their elevation attract around them the clouds in which they are often draped, and from which they extract their fertilizing moisture. So may the Christian dwell on high, amid the world's activities, very near the clouds of spiritual blessings from which he will be the first to derive supply, and that most copiously. It is not to be lost sight of, that all real gain on earth is forever. Your true knowledge never perishes. Mere wealth passes away, but not the works of kindness you have done by its means—not the use you have made of it in self-improvement—not the influence of the genial love which it has enabled you to cast around you,—these pass not away. If by its use you have cheered and purified society, gained for yourself stores of knowledge, helped on in the world the deserving, wiped away the widow's tears, and comforted the fatherless, and done your part in sustaining the institutions of Chris-