

world merely because it is going to be judged? Certainly not. My whole portion for time and eternity is in Christ; the day-star has arisen in my heart. I am separated from the world by affection, and not by fear.

We have the coming of Christ as the morning star, as a distinct thing from the sunrise; for when the sun rises upon the world, it will be judgment. (See Isa. ii.; Mal. iv. 1-3.) But beside and before all this we have our portion in Christ; we are not of this world, we are redeemed out of it, and belong to the Lord Jesus Christ, and shall join Him on high before He is manifested for the judgment of this world; and, therefore, the thunders of judgment cannot touch us, because we are seated with Him in heaven, from whence the judgments come. In Rev. iv., we have a most blessed and comforting picture of the position of the church. There are the twenty-four elders sitting on their thrones, round about the throne from whence the thunders, the lightnings, and the voices come; and they continue perfectly unmoved. But was this insensibility? Certainly not; for when God Himself in His holy character is mentioned, immediately they fall down and cast their crowns before Him. Neither is this holiness the cause of any fear, when the living creatures proclaim the threefold holiness of Him who sits upon the throne; it is their worship breaks forth, and they fall down and cast their crowns before Him in the full sense of the blessedness of Him who sits upon the throne. Christ,