

delight to us, we get the taste and appreciation of heavenly things—the things that are lovely, and of good report—which He has brought to us. I get on the one hand judgment of all flesh in me, and on the other the blessedness of what Christ is. Wherever the loins are girt about with truth, there will be confidence of heart, and the soul will be steadfast, there will be no turning back in the conflict to judge ourselves; our souls, so to speak, will be naturally with God, there will be occupation of heart with Christ, and there will be the Holy Ghost taking of the things which are Christ's, and showing them to us.

The result of this girding of the loins is, that a man's *condition* is the effect of truth. It was Christ's condition. He *was* the truth, and my condition will be like Christ's in proportion as the truth is in effect on my heart; the affections and heart right, I pass through the world in spirit with Him. "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the *breastplate* of righteousness." All this, mark, is practical righteousness; we do not want armour with God, we want it against Satan.

If I am an inconsistent man, going to serve God without the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left—without practical godliness—Satan will be sure to bring it up. In preaching, for instance, if your walk is not consistent, the world will say you are no better than they, and Satan will then have power against you.