

their hearts. But they? They were striving among themselves which of them was the greatest! To us the curtain is withdrawn; and when reading of this fact, we can hardly understand how they could be busied with such things, but we know what was then about to take place.

How many things have power to turn even us, who have more light than they, from the thought which then filled the heart of Jesus! Such is the heart of man in presence of the most serious and solemn things.

The death of Jesus should exercise the same influence on our hearts as on the disciples'; it should be precious to us. The Lord is with us when we are gathered, two or three together; and yet we well know the thoughts which pass through our hearts and minds. Here we see the same thing under the circumstances most calculated to touch the heart. Jesus tells His disciples that *His blood was to be shed for them*: "the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me at the table, but woe unto that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed;" and they enquire among themselves which of them it was that should do this thing.

One might suppose that they would think of nothing save the death of their gracious Master; but no! "There was a strife among them which of them should be accounted the greatest." What a contrast! But, alas! if we examine our own hearts we shall find there two things generally brought together, namely, real feelings which bear