

his blood we hear the aged champion and the strong believer exclaiming, "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith : Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me at that day : and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing." (2 Timothy 4, 6, &c.)

Beloved friends, be it our constant and lofty aim to live so as to obtain the reward of grace, "a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give at that day" to all those that "love His appearing." Let every thing we do, and every thing that we do not do, be associated in our minds with the love of Christ and a meetness for His coming. Amen.

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Let us sing Paraphrase 55, 2.

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Let us pray.

Almighty and Everlasting God, grant, we beseech Thee, that the truths and lessons of Thy Sacred Word, to which we have now been listening, may be permanently and savingly engraven upon our souls. O number us with Thy saints, who fight the good fight of faith and lay hold upon eternal life. Pardon for the sake of the once Crucified Redeemer, Thy Beloved Son, all our sins. They are beyond all number, yet Thou knowest them all ; they are exceedingly sinful because of the light and the love against which we have sinned. May we, through Thy Spirit enabling us, repent us truly of them all, and experience the blessed remission of sins, which is received by all those who believe in the name of Jesus Christ.

May we not only be freely justified by Thy grace through the Redemption of Christ Jesus, may we abound also in every good word and work. May all old things pass away, and all things become new. May our hearts be pure and our lives holy. Let no profaneness or evil speaking proceed out of our lips. May we be enabled to crucify the flesh in the affections