

heifer (Num. xix.) The ashes—sin consumed on the cross—with the running water, were sprinkled on the unclean person. The ashes are applied to the soul in testimony of the whole thing having been consumed—sin put away. If I indulge a foolish thought even, the Holy Spirit is grieved, and I am uncomfortable ; but I cannot judge myself for sin, unless I am certain that it is not imputed. The answer to everything is the work done on the cross. That work sets us in the presence of God, in the light, without a stain, our sin having been laid on Christ, according to God's knowledge of it.

Nothing tests the heart so much as realizing that "the worshipper once purged, has no more conscience of sins" (Heb. x. 2.) There can be no real or right sanctification till a man is clear about sin. Until I know my perfect acceptance, and am perfectly assured of salvation, through all sin being gone, I am mingling up my state with my standing. The holy nature is there, but there can be no proper sanctification till I see that Christ has not borne my sins up to such a day, but that *all* my sins are gone ; and, besides that, I have a perfect acceptance in Christ.

There are three things : peace as to sins ; present grace ; and glory to come (Rom. v. 1, 2). Not merely no condemnation as in Christ Jesus, all sin having been cleared away, but a position—a new place in Christ Himself—is ours. All, as to the first Adam, was settled on the cross, and I have a new place