

gets to Christ the more humble he becomes, yet his position is one of surpassing dignity and grandeur, for he is an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ. Grasping this wondrous fact as a living reality, and realizing in some small measure the full force of its meaning, why should the Christian give to the world so many of his precious moments, or why permit sin to tarnish the fair name which he bears, and thus bring reproach upon the cause he professes and advocates? Are there not far too many cold, indifferent Christians who never get near enough to their gracious Lord and Master? They do not hold close communion with Him. They fail to realize that sweet fellowship with Him, which it is their undoubted privilege to enjoy. They feel not the touch of His hand; they hear not the gentle tones of His voice; nor do they give a ready response to the throbbings of His great heart of love. His love to them has not enkindled that deep, quenchless love to Him in return, which would nerve them cheerfully to encounter every danger and endure every trial for His sake, as well as animate them to noblest deeds in the advancement of His cause. They realize neither the vast importance of the work in which they ought to engage, nor the absolute certainty of the success that attends its faithful performance. Thousands are going down to perdition around them, whilst they are unmoved to action and put forth no helping hand to save. Fellow-Christian, these things ought not so to be. Rise to a right conception of the dignity of your position and a true appreciation of the value of that work in which you should at once engage. Let the love of Christ constrain you to labor with ever-increasing zeal, and with redoubled energy and diligence for the salvation of immortal souls. Keep your heart always warm in this great work, and with glowing ardor persevere in its accomplishment. Look to the Holy Spirit for aid, and then obstacles will vanish, trials will become light and easy to bear, and temptations will lose their power to allure and to destroy. Be not weary in well-doing; for in due season you shall reap, if you faint not. Your reward is certain, for yours at last shall be that rich enjoyment which is experienced in the sunlight of your Heavenly Father's smile, the bliss of your Saviour's continual presence, and the beatific vision that shall never fade away.

But while here, in this world, engaged in the conflict, is the Christian sometimes enshrouded in darkness? Is the way rough and thorny? Do troubles, dangers and disappointments often vex and annoy? We frankly admit that there is much to fight against in leading a Christian life and in running the Christian race. Difficulties and hindrances frequently appear when least expected. The world, with its chilling influence and cold indifference, obstructs the flow of warm Christian feeling, and deadens the aspirations after a higher life, a nobler purpose and a broader view of Christian work and endeavor. The flesh is weak, and were it not for sustaining grace and the aids