

hope when I was upon my mother's breast : I was cast upon Thee from the womb : Thou art my God, from my mother's belly." With us it is the *gift* of God, because we have it not by nature ; and it is produced by the word of God (Eph. ii. 8 ; Rom. x. 17). But the Son of God having become the Dependent One, and turning to God with the prayer, " Preserve me, O God," the word becomes His delight, accepting it as that which was sufficient to guide man in the path that God would have him walk in. Well may we ponder in our soul the import of those words in Phil. ii., " He emptied Himself." He who personally was without need takes the place where he is dependent upon God for all, and receives all from His hand, and in that path never once uses aught that was His or that He could at any time have rightfully claimed to supply the needs which He found in His path, but His delight was that He learnt God to be sufficient for Him in *this* world. It was this that made *His* faith and dependence upon God of infinite worth ; He in it was the Object of heaven's wonder and of God's delight, while through it He has Himself become the Object which sustains us in our path. But not only do we see His confidence in God exercised in life, it was also in death. Not only did He know and prove in the face of this unbelieving and self-trusting world that we need God, and nothing else, to make our path blessed, but He also showed that God's power and resources sufficed for the one who trusted Him in