

apart—Satan found nothing in Him. It was His meat and His drink to do His Father's will.—J. N. D.

ASHAMED BEFORE HIM AT HIS COMING.

A great many will be. "His coming" is the time when He comes for His church, His body, His bride; only real believers will have part in it or will know when it takes place. False professors will have no part in it. Jezebel's children in Thytira, the dead in Sardis, and the lukewarm spued out of His mouth in Laodicea will none of them have any part in the "coming," the parousia of our Lord Jesus Christ. So those who will be ashamed before Him at His coming will be real believers, saved ones, children of God.

What will cause their shame?—Not abiding in Him. "And now, little children, abide in Him; that when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming." 1 John ii. 28. The word for "little children" is the one John uses for believers all through this epistle. In verses 13 and 18 he uses a different word meaning what we term "babes in Christ," but in all the other passages he uses the more general term which includes all believers. And it is to ALL believers he writes these solemn words; to you, reader, if you are His child, to every Christian, every real child of God.

There is danger then that we shall not abide in Him and that we shall be ashamed before Him at His coming. There is real danger or He

would not have warned us against it in these solemn words. Every saved person knows the difference between walking with the Lord and walking at a distance, between living in His very presence where we can rejoice before Him day by day, and so living that we feel self condemned, having our heart condemn us, realizing that our ways are not pleasing to Him. The dust of the world settles on us so thickly that we take on its tinge, our ways, our walk, our thoughts being more or less moulded and turned away from Him by our contact with that which defiles. Is this needful? Ah, no, we know it is not. He has called us to walk with Him, to abide in Him, and how are we to do it?

Get our eyes off the world and on Christ is the first thing to do, if we are conscious that we are not abiding in Him. Who and what fills your mind and occupies your thoughts Christ or the world? "But I must be thinking of my business." Yes, but where is your heart? is it clinging to that business of yours, loving it, getting absorbed in it so you have scant thought for Him? Where is your heart, your treasure, where are your affections? Do you gladly turn to Him just as soon as you can get away from that business of yours which claims so much of your time? Is your heart with Him all through the busy day, looking up to Him, doing all that work for Him? Is it His business you are carrying on for Him? or your business you are carrying on for yourself? Have you anything of your own?

The hour of His coming should be