

of heavens. Oh, wondrous thought! Overwhelming truth! What, oh! what is earth? What is Judea? What is man, that God is mindful of him—that he should so have visited him? And when He has visited us—when His divine Son, the brightness of the glory of the Father, descended to earth and took upon Him our nature, to reconcile us to God and obtain for us eternal life, how has He been received? Shunned for that He was poor—despised for His humble parentage—hated for His holiness—tried before tribunals for crimes unknown to Him—scourged and spit upon, mocked and buffeted, and crucified with thieves, as if His enemies would render His death as shameful as it could be made.

But behold the end. See, when he had paid the debt of death for us, what a change in all things. He awoke to life. He burst the tomb. He walked forth from the sepulchre. Angels ministered to Him. After forty days on earth, wherein He unfolded to His disciples the mysteries of His gospel and the splendour of His kingdom, He ascended visibly to heaven at mid-day from Bethany, in the sight of many hundreds, and was led by armies of angels to the right hand of the Majesty on high.

This, my dear Father, is the conclusion of the marvellous life of Jesus, both Lord and Christ. His ascent from this earth into the heaven of heavens is proof not only that He came from God, but that God is well pleased with all that He has done in the flesh. If in any one thing He taught He had spoken what was not true, either concerning the Father or concerning Himself, He would not thus have been welcomed back to the heavenly abodes. All that Jesus said of Himself is therefore truth—Jehovah attests it! We must, then believe, or we can have no interest in the kingdom which He hath gone to prepare for us, and which we can