

law requires. There conscience finds the satisfying answer to its question, How shall I come before the Lord? There the balm effectual to heal its wounds. Nor are the promises of the Gospel limited to forgiveness. As free as its offer of grace is its promise of glory, and the attainment of it assured to him who believeth. No partial salvation this, nor uncertain, nor conditional; for, observe, it is "to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ," we are called. The sacred writer embraces all as possessed by one faith—received on one calling. The very first step on the way of life, once taken, is no surer than the final prize is sure that is yet to be run for and pressed towards. Christ has purchased all, and he gives all or none!

So it is called "his glory,"—that glory transcendent and eternal which he was made perfect through sufferings to bring many sons to enjoy—*his* also, as being in his hand to be dispensed by him in that day. Who is competent to describe that glory? What tongue of man or angel can describe it? No expectation, nor imagination, surely, can exceed what is not so much described as only indicated by this representation of it—it is the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ; a glory which is the reward of the Saviour's merits, and proportional to these; a glory which he has gone into the heavens to receive, and prepare for his people; and which he will give them to enjoy in fellowship with himself eternally. For, says he, "the glory which thou hast given to me I have given to them." How enhanced the sweetness of the reward, that it is to be enjoyed by believers as joint heirs with Christ; given by him, the Lord, the righteous Judge, and secured by their mystical union to his very person! The Apostle lingers on the Saviour's name, every letter in which is precious, as connected with so blessed a prospect:—"the glory of our Lord, Jesus, Christ!"

The conclusion of the passage contains an exhortation and a prayer: very suitable both, as following his words of congratulation or thanksgiving. Just as if the final salvation were uncertain, or conditional, he enjoins "standing fast" as a duty: