

good fight of faith," to take to ourselves the whole armour of God, and to stand, having our loins girt about with truth. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, are enemies which make combined and constant efforts to recapture the city of Man-soul from which they have been expelled. And Christians must have on the heavenly armour, and in it defend and hold the fort. Nor can we make an exception of a single hour, even till the very last, when they may put the armour off. The battle is a life-long one; only at death does the warfare end. Then the enemy in vain fires his last arrow at the child of God. Then the heir of heaven lays down his implements of war, and takes up his crown of life and his palm of victory, and wears and waves them in everlasting triumph. Oh, blessed thought, in heaven there is no warfare! No foe shall ever enter in through its gates! Only the crowned victors of Christ's Sacramental host shall be found there.

(c) Another source of happiness in heaven will be society without corruption or imperfection. Our social pleasures are among the sweetest and most highly prized we know of on earth. The fellowship of kindred spirits here, is a foretaste of the fellowship of the redeemed in glory. But society here, even when it is the most select, is not perfect. We all have our infelicities of temperament and habit, for which we have to make mutual allowance. There are little jealousies and misunderstandings, too, which mar the happiness of society here. And there are busybodies and tale-bearers who sometimes separate chief friends. But in heaven there will be none of those weaknesses which here are the results of sin in us. There, there will be no ground for jealousies or suspicions. There will be no gossips to foment disputes among the inhabitants of the new Jerusalem. There shall in no wise enter into it any thing which maketh a lie.

A quaint old writer says, "Themistocles having a piece of ground to sell, appointed the crier to proclaim, that whoever would buy it should have a good neighbor. The saints in heaven shall be always sure of good neighborhood. They shall never want good company. In this world, Abraham and Lot must live asunder; but there they shall always live together. The cynic of old was fain to look for an honest man with a candle, because of the scarcity of them; but heaven shall be always full of such saints as shall always shine as so many stars, yea, as so many suns in glory."

(d.) Another element of the bliss of heaven, will, I think, be an accurate understanding of those providences of God which in this life are so perplexing to us. His dealings with us are often painful and mysterious.