

please us. But this was not Jesus. The pride, the indifference, the ill-temper, and the low unspiritual mind, which the disciples were continually betraying, did not tempt HIM to take distance from them.

For at the END of their walk together, He is *nearer to them than ever*. (John xiv., xvi.) He did not *part company* with them because they gave Him much exercise of heart, and were continually drawing upon Him. He warned and instructed them; He rebuked and condemned them; but NEVER GAVE THEM UP. Blessed, perfect Master! lover of our souls at all cost! (John ii. 6.)

THE FORM OF A SERVANT.

“For, is it mere humanity, I ask, I get in the Person of Christ? Is it not something immeasurably different, even *God manifest in flesh*? He would not as a Saviour, do for me a sinner, if He were not Jehovah’s Fellow. Every creature *owes* all that he can render. None but One who thinks it not robbery to be equal with God can *take* the form of a servant—for he *is* a servant already, as I have said before. ‘No creature can supererogate,’ as another has said: the thought would be rebellion. None could be qualified to stand surety for man, but One who could without presumption claim equality with God, and consequently be independent.

“True, humanity was capable of *sinning*. Adam in the garden was so, for he did sin. We may say