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Satan and the demons are there, as we shall see in Chapter vi. And there is the field of spiritual warfare and victory. My friends, the heavenly place is something tremendously real, though it is not touched by any of our senses, which can communicate only with coarse material things. Let us not imagine that by five material senses we can communicate with all real things.

The heavenly places reach right on into heaven where Jesus is, and where the saints continue to live after the body, with all its earthly senses. ceases to exist. If we are Christians, and are living the Christian life, all, we are living in the heavenly places. "Your life is hid with Christ in God"—not that it is dormant, but hidden from the world, who "receive not the things of the Spirit of God neither can know them, for they are spiritually discerned."

Such are "the heavenly places." And there are "all spiritual blessings"—which are the portion of the saints.

3. ELECTION AND PREDESTINATION. (vs. 4-6)

This is here introduced as the moving cause of "all spiritual blessings" with which the Father "has blessed us"—It is "*According as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world.*"

I am well aware that these words will fall harshly on many ears. Man will not have it that God shall have anything to do or say as to what the issue shall be, or any fixed purpose or plan, till He shall see what man is going to do. Let us not make any apology for this, much less deny or explain away the plain words of the Holy Ghost, who here makes a clear statement of His sovereign purpose and plan of God in the work of human salvation. Our place is simply to receive His Word