

fluences which he has placed within our reach. He is revealed to us as our Teacher, our Example, the Lord crucified, the rising Lord, and the Lord ascending and glorified. The word of truth which he taught, carries a cleansing and sanctifying power. Obedience thereto purifies the soul. The influence of his holy and benevolent life hath a saving effect upon us. The sacrifice of his death was to put away sin. His resurrection, too, was for our justification and salvation. These are the direct statements of the New Testament.* What God hath joined together in this matter let not man put asunder. One portion, perhaps, may strike us with more force than another, according to our circumstances and temperament, but let us be wary in our enthusiasm, nor detach that portion from the rest as the only thing needful. Let us beware of detaching the life of Christ from his death, or his death from his life. Let us beware of running the comprehensive gospel which has been written by Evangelists and Apostles for our guidance, into the narrow mould of a conventional creed, and insisting on this partial gospel, as the gospel of salvation, instead of the full gospel of the Scripture. Rather let us receive the whole revealed Saviour, in humble waiting faith, and let us open our hearts to all the saving influences which come from his teaching, his life, his death, and his resurrection.

If we do this, we shall know, indeed, that Christ is a Saviour to us. If we sit at his feet, like the grateful Mary—if we follow him from place to place as he went about continually doing good—if, like the faithful and devoted women, we stand before his cross—if, like them too, we visit his bursted sepulchre,—if in our thought and life we carry him with us as our constant friend and counsellor,—his spirit and life will flow into our spirit and life, and we will become reconciled, and redeemed, unto God. By the power of this spirit we will be created anew—heart and life will be regenerated. Then will this earthly life have a new meaning for us. Through the working of this spirit we will be led to live for higher and diviner ends. And when this earthly existence comes to a close, Jesus will be found by the bed of the departing spirit, infusing consolation and hope, speaking of the place in his Father's mansions which he went before to prepare, pointing the path, and leading the way, to the heavenly inheritance.

* John xv. 3 ; xvii. 17. 1 Peter i. 22. Rom. v. 10. Heb. ix. 23. Rom. iv. 25. 1 Cor. xv. 17.