Chapitre 169

Jesus put himself right where we are

"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith" (1 John 5:4).

If we were to be saved by being delivered from the flesh just as it is, then Jesus need never have come to the world. If we were to be saved by being delivered from all temptation, and set in a realm of no temptation, then Jesus need not have come into the world. But never, by any such deliverance as that, could man have developed character.

Therefore, instead of trying to save people by delivering them utterly from the flesh, just where they were, Jesus came to the world, and put Himself in the flesh, just where people are. He met that flesh, just as it is, with all its tendencies and desires; and by divine power which He brought by

faith, "He condemned sin in the flesh" (Rom. 8:3).

Christ thus brought to all mankind that divine faith which brings the divine power to deliver from the power of the flesh and the law of sin, to give assured dominion over the flesh, just as it is.

Instead of Jesus trying to save people in a way in which they would be limp and characterless, by setting them in a realm of no temptation, He came to man, just where man is in the midst of all his temptations. Jesus came in the very flesh such as man has; and in that flesh, He met all the temptations known to that flesh, and conquered everyone of them. By that conquest, He brought victory to every soul in the world. Bless His name.

Every soul can have that victory in its fullness, who will receive and keep "the faith of Jesus." [1]

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith OF Jesus" (Rev. 14:12).

Note:

1. Lessons on Faith, pp. 235, 136.