

Christ, we are washed in the water of separation, are brought off from that business, from that gain, and from that fellowship, which was not agreeable to his holy will: and I have felt a renewed confirmation in the time of this voyage, that the Lord, in his infinite love, is calling to his visited children, so to give up all outward possessions, and means of getting treasures, that his Holy Spirit may have free course in their hearts, and direct them in all their proceedings.

To feel the substance pointed at in this figure, man must know death, as to his own will.

“No man can see God, and live.” This was spoken by the Almighty to Moses the prophet; and opened by our blessed Redeemer.

As death comes on our own wills, and a new life is formed in us, the heart is purified, and prepared to understand clearly. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” In purity of heart, the mind is divinely opened to behold the nature of universal righteousness, or the righteousness of the kingdom of God. “No man hath seen the Father, save he that is of God; he hath seen the Father.”

The natural mind is active about the things of this life; and in this natural activity, business is proposed, and a will in us to go forward in it. And as long as this natural will remains unsubjected, so long there remains