

he was absolutely free from the guilt of sin, not through anything good that he had done, but because Jesus Christ had borne his sins on the cross. Yet he said, If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead, not as though I had already attained either were already perfect." He is not speaking here of the final resurrection. He is not speaking here of justification. He is speaking of sanctification.

Those grave-clothes of sin still cling to us. That is in us which comes from Satan and is still there. It was in Paul as it is in us. He prays that God will enable him to utilize the power of His resurrection, to understand the fellowship of His sufferings and to enter into them if that be God's will. If by any means I might == he might in his character attain that resurrection from the condition of being dead in sins which we all had, and from which God has promised us all if we believe in Christ in His own time.

He says, I count not myself to have apprehended, but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth to those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

A Jewish professor said to me once, Isn't it wonderful to teach in a theological seminary where everybody is good? But he said, Of course you would not fluk anybody would you? I said, I not only would but I do on occasion. I said, We ~~believe~~ believe not merely in being good but in being good for something. The Lord wants us to press forward toward the goal He has set before us. It is only by the power of God that we can reach that goal. But he wants us to press forward. He wants us not to count ourselves as if we had apprehended but to know that whatever hill we surmount,