

hands and therefore we look forward to them as a vital part of the Christian hope. "But we know that when He shall appear we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is." We know He has a marvellous goal, a marvellous objective for every one of us. And we know that He is going, if we truly believe in Christ, to transform us into this and to make us such as He wants us to be.

Then vs. 3 says, And every man that has this hope in Him purifies himself even as He is pure. And so hope affects our mind, affects our certainty, affects our lack of wisdom, affects our assurance as we go forward. It is a tremendous part of the Christian grace. But also hope affects our present attitudes in other ways. "Every man that hath this hope in him purifies himself even as He is pure." We know if we believe in Christ that he is going to mould us and make us and cleanse us and make us such as He desire us to be. We know that we will reach that objective which He had for us when He took us to himself and set our faith on Christ. We know that. But if we have this hope in us we must purify ourselves; we must set to work for our sanctification. We must search our minds to see what there is contrary to His will. We must search for every bit of bitterness; for every bit of unChristian attitude toward anyone else; for every bit of uncleanness; for every bit of failing to think things through and following along in the line of our natural way instead of that which the Scripture teaches we should do. We must purify ourselves in order that shall accomplish His purpose. It is part of the hope.

When I was a boy I was very much afraid of appendicitis. I had known of several people who had suddenly been taken with it and been in very great pain, and I had a terror that I might get it. And for a long time I prayed that the Lord would keep me from getting appendicitis. Then I decided that was not the right prayer. I prayed that the Lord would cleanse me and fit me for His purposes and teach me the lessons that He wanted to teach me, and that it would not be necessary for Him to put me through suffering and disagreeable experiences in order to bring me to the place where I would learn the lessons He would have me have. But I prayed, Lord if appendicitis or some other experience is necessary to teach me these lessons, then if I don't learn them otherwise give me that experience that is necessary to teach me that. And I think