

Him sons of God, and if sons, continues the 'Apopstle, heirs also,—“heirs indeed of God and joint-heirs with Christ.”¹⁷ Thus we were raised to a higher degree of dignity than that from which we had fallen. Yes, the chief purpose of Our Lord was that since we “the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself in like manner . . . (might be) partaker of the same: that through death, He might destroy him who had the empire of death, that is to say, the devil;” and that He might deliver us from his servitude.¹⁸ “He gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity and might cleanse to Himself a people acceptable, a pursuer of good works.”¹⁹

Oh God, how can we, such poor, feeble creatures, thank Thee for such an infinite manifestation of love and condescension? Surely the only fitting expression of our gratitude and the only one really acceptable to the Father, is a submissive adherence to the words and teachings of Jesus His Son. Woe to us indeed, if after God so loved the world as to give His only begotten Son,”²⁰ we should make void this gift of gifts. Our prayer, dear heavenly Father, is that the coming of Thy Son into the world may be the means by which we will have life everlasting. Amen.

¹⁷ *Rom.*, viii, 16-17.

¹⁸ *Heb.*, ii, 14-15.

¹⁹ *Titus*, ii, 14.

²⁰ *John*, iii, 16.

SNOW

SEBASTIAN CARLSON, O.P.

Befouled with sins of money, blood, and lust,
That man has branded on its vernal crust,
The world throws off its green, assumes the gown
Of penitent, of grey and humble brown.

And Christ, Who would not see us die, forgives,
And sends the snow. Again earth-beauty lives.