Better, but difficult part of the Kingdom.

Toward the close of Jesus' Ministry He came to Bethany, to the home of Lazarus, Martha and Mary — the same Lazarus whom He had awakened from the sleep of death. Mary chose this opportunity to anoint the Master's feet with Precious Ointment, which He declared was an anointing for His burial. (Matthew 26:12.) At another occasion He spoke to the two sisters about choosing the better part of the Kingdom. The Bible surely tells us that the way to the Kingdom is difficult and narrow, that the cost of being disciples of Jesus is self-denial and cross-bearing. Many wonder that the promises are thus restricted and not to all who strive to do right, without faith or self-sacrifice.

There are difficulties for all attached to the gaining of the Kingdom because God desires a very choice little company for that glorious position. He has made the trials so severe that only the saintly will avail themselves of the opportunity to gain the Kingdom. — Two dear disciples asked to sit next Jesus on the Throne of His Kingdom. The Master replied: Are you able (willing) to drink of My cup of self-denial, self-sacrifice, ignominy and shame? (Matthew 20:22; Mark 10:35-38.)