

been. First satisfy God, then satisfy yourself about it.

Ah, this is impossible, But the precious blood of Christ has done what you could never accomplish. Trust that precious blood, and not a charge, nor a spot shall remain. It is God who says, "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." "And by Him all that believe are justified from all things."—GEO. C.

WHAT HAS GOD DONE? WHAT CAN MAN DO?

Because of the constant tendency of the human heart to take some credit to itself for goodness, and because it is by nature utterly ignorant of the pure and holy love of God, it is always in place to ask and answer such questions. Nothing brings such joy and peace to the heart of a sinner as to learn the great truth that he can do nothing to merit the love and favor of God, and that God loves sinners, just because they are sinners, and that no works of human righteousness can recommend a soul to God. It is always good to be reminded of what God has done to save sinners, always profitable to be reminded that no righteous doings of ours can avail in the least to procure the favor of the infinitely holy God.

What has God done to save sinners? Rather ask what has He not done that almighty love could do? What among men is the most powerful motive to action? Is it not love? "Love is strong as death; . . . many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown

it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned." Sol. Song, viii. 6, 7. We can see what love leads men to do. The Word tells us what the love of God led Him to do. "God so loved the world that"—what? What did love, infinite, pure, holy love lead the Father to do? To "give His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." But we are not to stop here, though so many do. "By grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph. ii. 8, 9.

It is not that God did a part of the work of our salvation and then left a part for us to do, that He gave His only begotten Son and then left us to believe on Him or not, as we saw best. The faith which we have in Christ is the gift of God; it is as much His gift as Christ, for we have no power in ourselves to believe. If we were dead in trespasses and sins, as the Word assures us we were, how could we have any power to believe? This power MUST be the gift of God. And so we must accept it as truth that one of the gifts of God given to us in Christ is the power to believe on Him. Our salvation is all of God from the very beginning to the very end, only there is to be no end to it, it is eternal.

And so too, our salvation also reaches backward into eternity as well as forward into eternity. We have the general purpose in Eph. iii. 11, where we read of "the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord," which was "that