

The gates of Gaza could not confine Samson, far less could the great stone, or watching soldiers be any impediment to the Son of God.

Do you know what this means for you, trembling believer? "He was raised for our justification." Rom. iv. He bore your sins on the cross, He endured the penalty of death for you, and He rose triumphant over all, having left behind Him your sins, death, the grave and judgment. Your sins are gone, for Jesus has risen without them and He is in God's presence in proof of it. You may look up and see Him there, a man in the glory of God. Satan's power is no more to be feared in death, for Jesus came out from among the dead. When the disciples saw the empty grave, *they saw and believed, so may you.* John xx, 8, 31.

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Oh, poor fools, who are beguiled with painted things, and this world's fair weather and smooth promises, and rotten worm-eaten hopes! May not the Devil laugh to see you give out your souls, and get in but corrupt and counterfeit pleasures of sin? Oh, for a sight of eternity's glory, and a little tasting of the Lamb's marriage supper! Half a draught, or a drop of the wine of consolation, that is up at our banqueting house, out of Christ's own hand, would make your stomachs loath the brown bread, and the sour drink of a miserable life. Oh, how far are you bereaved of wit, to chase, and hunt, and run, till your souls be out of breath after a condemned happiness of your own making.

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