

when he said: "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into thy kingdom?" But was he then able to say: "I am washed in the blood of Christ?" When we have confidence in a medical doctor, we consult him and take his remedies before we are able to say that he has cured us of our ailment.

To say in sincerity, that the blood of Christ has washed me from my sins, is *assurance*. To trust in His blood as an infallible remedy, mercifully provided by God to blot them out, is *faith*. The relation between these two positions is—and it is God that says it—that if we have the one, we have a right to the other. If I am truly attached to Christ as my only hope, my only refuge, and believe that His blood has efficacy to take away my sins, God says that the blood has taken them away, and it is my happy privilege to say it also.

*3rd question*: It is not faith that saves us is it? It is Jesus; and all we have to do is to receive it.

*Reply*: Doubtless. Faith in itself has no efficacy. If what you believed was not true, what value would it be to believe it? It is in the object of faith, it is in Him in whom we believe; it is in Jesus that all saving virtue dwells. To believe, is only to receive Jesus, and is it not a strange thing that so much pains has to be taken to induce us to receive Him? "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."—(1 Tim. i. 15.)

*4th question*: Is not Jesus always before the throne of God?