

Years have passed since; the painting is still in its place; the unhappy condemned fixes still the same look upon every visitor to the Sistine chapel, and seems to say: "DO NOT AS I HAVE DONE!" But since then I have learned this, that there is here on earth the possibility of pardon, of absolute forgiveness. I have raised my eyes to Him who gave Himself as a Saviour to the world; I have seen Him dying on the cross, and I have understood that it was for me. I have believed it and have realised in myself something of the hitherto unknown. Those sins which bore so heavily upon me have been lifted off; that troubled conscience is now at peace, I am saved. I have understood the value of these words: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. i: 15). "The chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed" (Is. liii: 5). For the one who has trusted in Christ, his salvation is a settled fact, he has an assurance of it that no one is able to take away because that assurance is God given. "THERE IS THEREFORE NOW NO CONDEMNATION TO THEM WHO ARE IN CHRIST JESUS" (Rom. viii: 1).

JOHN iii: 16-17.—"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

"For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

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