

tears of the day, so the Christian, weary, it may be, with the toils and trials of his earthly pilgrimage, when he comes to die may lie down with the assurance that though he walk in the valley of the shadow of death the everlasting arms are around and underneath him, so that his death is but falling asleep in the arms of the Saviour. This the Christian may learn from Stephen.

But this truth has another and deeper side. To those out of Christ and without God and without hope in this world, this teaching comes with terrible force. If you die out of Christ, you die indeed the awful second death. Your latter end cannot be peace, nor can it be called falling asleep. It matters not how rich or great you may be, nor how many may do you honor at your burial, still let me tell you with earnestness and sincerity that if you die without Christ you die without hope. Your end cannot be called "falling asleep," but it will be terrible and hopeless, because eternal, death. Accept the Gospel offer, take Christ, and not only trust him for salvation, but serve him faithfully in life: then when death comes, whether sooner or later, all will be well. You will fall asleep in Jesus. Your spirit will go to Him, your body will be cared for by Christ with whom it too is in mystical union, with joy you will hear the last trump sound to call your body from the grave and bring your spirit into union with it again. On the right hand you will stand at the great and notable day of the Lord, you will hear the welcome, come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, and so shall ye be forever with the Lord. Let this lead to the Saviour, and that without a moment's delay.

Such in a brief way is our study of the life, work and death of the noble martyr, whose name stands at the head of the long list of those who since his day have given their lives for the sake of their Saviour and Master. May its simple lessons as we have tried to gather them be engraved upon our hearts, and affect our lives for good for the days to come. See the power of the Gospel here displayed, and let our confidence in its provisions be strengthened. See the import of looking up by faith as we journey on our way to the better land, and let our faith be strong and abiding. See the assurance that there is one in heaven who can ever help us, and let us ever look to him in our time of need. See what death is to the Christian, and let us rejoice in our glorious hopes. And may all these things unite to be a fourfold cord of irresistible persuasion to draw sinners to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world.

*Columbia, S.C.*