

themselves. There is something wrong, which causes a feeling of inquietude. In short, they have not peace.

Thus we have seen a threefold need of peace:—1. Peace between God and man—a restoration of that harmony which was broken by the fall. 2. Peace between man and man—a feeling of brotherhood—a oneness of object and unity of purpose in life. 3. Peace within—a bringing of all the faculties into harmony with each other—a restoring of each to its proper place, and letting it move in its proper sphere.

We now proceed to notice.

II. How far this evil was remedied, and the want supplied by the blood of the cross.

Now the first thing necessary in order to make peace between God and man was either for man to cease to rebel and sue for mercy on whatever conditions God was pleased to grant it; or for God to offer certain conditions upon which He would receive man back again to His favour. And this latter is what God has done. Though He is the wronged one yet He was the first to move in the matter of reconciliation. And by giving Christ, He not only showed Himself to be desirous of terminating this state of enmity; but also made known the conditions upon which it should cease. And although His justice could not allow sin to go unatoned for, He provided the one who should atone for it. Hence the incarnation. This is why God the Son left the throne of His glory and became clothed in human flesh. He who was "God, of the substance of His Father before the worlds: became man, of the substance of His mother born in the world" that He as the second Adam might remedy the evil wrought by the first Adam. That He might keep the law which the other had broken. That He might lead a life of holy obedience, and then by the sacrifice of Himself, make reconciliation between God and man.

This was foretold of Him by the prophet Isaiah: "He was wounded for our transgressions: He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our *peace* was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray: we have turned every one to his own way and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

This He Himself declared to be His mission upon earth: "The Son of man came, not to be ministered unto: but to minister; and to give His life a ransom for many." "I lay down my life for the sheep."

This is the testimony of the Holy Ghost concerning Him: "He was delivered for our offences." "He died *for our sins*