

not; he would be sure of possessing it. If it is a question of the future, I can say: I hope for the enjoyment of heaven because I am not yet there, but I do not hope that I shall be pardoned; I am pardoned because God has said plainly that the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanses from all sin; that He has thus taken away all my sins, and that He will remember them no more. The apostle John says: These things have I written unto you little children, "because your sins *are forgiven* you for his name sake."

ROWLAND HHILL once visited a poor man, of weak intellect, and on conversing with him said, "Well, Richard, do you love the Lord Jesus Christ?"

"To be sure I do; don't you?"

"Heaven is a long way off," said the minister, "and the journey is difficult."

"Do you think so? I think heaven is very near."

"Most people think it is a very difficult matter to get to heaven."

"I think heaven is very near," said Richard again, "and the way to it is very short: there are only *three steps there*."

Mr. Hill replied, "Only three steps?"

Richard repeated, "Yes, only three steps."

"And pray said the pastor, "what do you consider those three steps to be?"

"Those three steps are, *out of self, into Christ, unto glory*."

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