

among you, has been the conviction that the salvation of all men is desirable and possible. Men are very sinful and guilty ; but God loves them nevertheless. His love springs from the fullness of his own nature, and is wholly independent of man's merit or demerit. This love is not limited by any class or national lines. It embraces the entire world for which He gave His Son. In God there is nothing like reluctance—no hindrance or obstacle of any kind to the salvation of any person, however degraded and guilty. Moreover, the Lord Jesus Christ, the God-Man, urgently invites, is abundantly able and willing to save every man ; it is his high office, his special mission, his peculiar glory to do so. The terms on which he offers salvation are simple, the easiest possible and alike to all,—repentance for past misdeeds, trust in him as Omnipotent to save, a life consecrated to his service, governed by his precepts, and animated by his Spirit. On these terms, I believe the salvation of every human being to be possible. On this principle, I have industriously sought to instruct you in the nature and consequences of sin ; I have contrasted your obligations with your conduct ; I have dwelt upon the unspeakable love of God, and especially upon the person and mission, the sufficiency and promises of the Lord Jesus Christ ; upon the fullness and freeness of the great salvation, and upon the guilt of those who neglected its merciful provisions. Eschewing all attempts at displays of learning or eloquence, I have sought to preach the Gospel, using every argument within my reach to induce you to comply with its terms and accept its blessings. In public and private I have addressed you as rational and intelligent beings, who could think and feel the force of truth, who might be saved but were in imminent danger of perdition. I have expected that God would bless his own truth, and through it lead you to a present experience of salvation. Nor have I been altogether disappointed. Many for whom I have labored and prayed, some