

"I will do that with pleasure," was the immediate reply,—"*Because He chose it.*"

The young man, apparently taken by surprise, stood speechless; and Mr. North again replied, "*Because He chose it;* and," added he, "if you continue to question and cavil at God's dealings, and vainly puffed up by your carnal mind, strive to be wise above what is written, I will tell you something more that God will do,—*He will some day put you into hell-fire.* It is vain for you to strive with your Maker—you cannot resist Him; and neither your opinion of His dealings, nor your blasphemous expression of them, will in the least lessen the pain of your everlasting damnation, which, I again tell you, will most certainly be your portion if you go on in your present spirit. There were such questioners as you in St. Paul's time, and how did the apostle answer them? '*Nay, but O man, who art thou that repliest against God?*'"

The young man here interrupted Mr. North, and said, "Is there such a text as that in the Bible?" "Yes, there is," was the reply, "in the ninth chapter of the Romans; and I recommend you to go home and read that chapter: and after you have read it, and seen there how God claims for Himself the right to do *whatever He chooses*, without permitting the thing formed to say to Him that formed it, 'Why hast Thou made me thus?' remember that, besides permitting sin, there is another thing *God has chosen to do*—*God chose to send Jesus.* Of His own free and sovereign grace, God gave His only begotten Son to die for sinners in their stead—in their place: so that,