

(5). When justice once strikes the Son of God, justice exhausts itself. Sin is amerced in an Infinite Object.^(e)

(6). Not only is this true, but more—not only does justice exhaust itself, but, striking an Infinite Object, justice meets a *rebound*, is reflected back upon God, and now God must *reward* Christ, as the substitute, for His overplusage of infinite merits.^(f) Therefore,

(7). The moment the believing sinner accepts Christ as his substitute, he finds himself not only freed from his sin, but *rewarded*. He gets all heaven because of the glory and merits of Christ.^(g)

The Atonement, then, which we preach is one of absolute exchange.^(h) It is that Christ took our place literally, in order that we might take His place literally—that God regarded and treated Christ as the sinner and that He regards and treats the believing sinner as Christ.⁽ⁱ⁾ From the moment we believe, God looks upon us as if we were Christ.^(j) He takes it as if Christ's atonement had been our atonement, and as if Christ's life had been our life, and He beholds, accepts, blesses and rewards as though all Christ was and did had been ours.^(k)

Perhaps an illustration here may serve to put the fact in

(e). Rom. viii. 3: "God sending *His own Son* in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." Zech. xiii. 7: "Awake, O sword, against *my* shepherd, and against the Man that is *My Fellow*, saith the Lord."

(f). Isa. xl. 10, lxii. 11: "His *reward* is with Him, and His *recompense* (see margin) before Him." Isa. liii. 12: "Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great," &c. Phil. ii. 6: "Wherefore God hath highly exalted Him," &c. Heb. ii. 9: "Crowned Him with glory and honor."

(g). John xvii. 22: "The *glory* which Thou gavest Me, I have given them." Rom. v. 17: "Shall reign in life by One, Jesus Christ."

(h). I. Pet. iii. 18: "For Christ also hath suffered, the Just for (*ὕπέρ*, instead of) the unjust, to bring us to God."

(i). II. Cor. v. 21: "He hath made Him to be sin for us," &c.

(j). John iv. 17: "As He is so are we in this world." John xvii. 23; I. Cor. xii. 12; Eph. v. 30.

(k). Rom. v. 10: "*Justified* by His blood; *saved* by His life." Rom. v. 21: "Grace reigns *through* righteousness *unto* eternal life, *by* Jesus Christ our Lord."