

long hard months, at last he brought it in. When he had done so, the Emperor told some of his subjects to take that man and bind him hand and foot with the chain he had made, and cast him into prison. That is just what the devil is doing with every sinner, making you forge your own chain; and by-and-by he will have you cast into the prison-house of hell. But if you come to Christ to-night, He will snap the fetters asunder. The devil has got no power to bind you against the power of Christ. But do not think you can deliver yourselves, and do not go away with the delusion that you are not being taken captive by Satan. Many do not believe they are under his power. Suppose to-morrow, when you get up; you say, "I am going through this day without committing sin." See if you get through it! Not one of you could live one day without sin, and God says, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Therefore no one here ought to say so again, if they have said so before, that Satan has not taken them captive. You are already captive. And I come with the glad tidings that Christ can set you free.

In our war there was a military prison at Richmond, and there was a great many of our Union soldiers who were taken by the rebel army and put in there. When the Southern States were suffering for want of bread, many of these soldiers died for lack of food. When we heard the news, you may imagine our distress at the thought of our own brothers being taken captive and dying for the want of food. At last the lines were broken, and the Union army went marching into Richmond. There was the prison where hundreds of them were dying, in a strange land, away from father and mother, away from home and from loved ones, and buried by those who did not love them or care for them. All at once they heard the

tramp of a coming army, as it came along down those streets, and in a few minutes those iron doors were unlocked, those gates were thrown open, and those men proclaimed to be free. They came out with joy; their liberators had come. I bring you good news to-night—you that have been taken captive by the devil; you are in the prison-house of Satan. Here is One who is mighty to save. Do you want to be free? Flee right to Him, and this very minute he will speak the word of power; the fetters will fall off, and you shall go free. He is able to save to the utmost.

When Chicago was burnt up, there were a hundred thousand people on those Western prairies. We were very hungry, and it looked dark for twenty-four hours. All our telegraph wires were burnt; our newspapers were burnt, and we could not hear from the outside world. There we were with our wives and children, and the first news we got was a despatch posted up, "Help is coming." I saw men who before were worth millions, and who had lost all in the fire, yet they did not shed a tear. But when they read this dispatch, they could not keep back the tears. We wept for joy. We needed help, we were in ruins, and when help came we received it gladly. Poor sinner, you are in ruins; you need help; you cannot save yourself; your friends, or your ministers, cannot save you: I come to tell you that Christ can save you. If there is one here who really wants to be saved, receive Him as your liberator to-night. The God who delivered Israel from the hand of Pharaoh, is He not able to deliver the poor sinner from the grasp of Satan?

Some of you say, "What am I to do?" I will tell you. It is the simplest thing you ever did. Come right to Christ just as you are. A man said to a minister in the North of England, "I feel as if I was chained."