## THE ATONEMENT.

verse. It reversed the relationship of man and Its blight and its passion have alienated God. mankind, enslaved it, condemned it, doomed it to death, exposed it to wrath. The sacrifice of the cross is the explanation of the enormity of sin, and the measure of the love of the redeeming Trinity. It is only ignorance that says God loves because Christ died. Christ died because God loves. Prcpitiation does not awaken love. Love provides explation. To cancel the curse, to lift the ban, to inoculate the antitoxin of grace, to regain life, to purchase pardon, to ransom the enslaved, to defeat Satan's work; in one word, to reconcile and restore a lost race; for this, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and Son of Man, came into this world and offered up His Divine Human Person, Body and Soul.

His death upon the cross, both as a substitute, and as the federal representative of humanity, voluntary, altruistic, vicarious, sinless, sacrificial, purposed not accidental, from the standpoint of humanity unconscionably brutal, but from the standpoint of love indescribably glorious, not only satisfied all the demands of the divine righteousness, but offered the most powerful incentive to repentance, morality, and self-sacrifice. The Scripture in its completeness thus sets forth the substance of the two great theories, the moral and the vicarious, and we find in the rotundity or allness of the Scriptural presentment no mere partial or antagonistic segments of truth, but the completeness of the spiritual, moral, altruistic and atoning aspects of the death of Christ.\*

<sup>\*</sup>Hodge, on the Atonement, pp. 292-320, and Workman, Atone-ment and Reconciliation with God, may be taken as representative of this one-sided and therefore unsatisfactory way of treating a great subject. The Socinian view that Christ's death was mainly, if not exclusively, to produce a reconciling influence upon the heart of mankind, which Workman espouses, is as narrow, if not narrower, and as partial as Hodge's advocacy of the theory that Christ died for the elect only.

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