

says, *Deliver him from going down to the pit, for I have found a ransom.* The offended party provides means of reconciliation for his offending child. *Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins.* The Saviour himself, gladly co-operating in the covenant of peace, flies to our rescue; and, laying aside his glory, steps down from the throne, and *humbles himself to the death of the cross.* The Gospel announces this astonishing plan in all the freeness and fulness of its provisions, and proclaims pardon through the blood of the Holy One, by faith in his name. Thus mercy and truth are united with righteousness and peace. Thus the claims of justice are secured by the very act in which the Divine benignity is exercised, while God's glory is promoted, and the sinner eternally saved.

You will perceive, my brethren, at one view, the practical application of these cheering truths, and learn that as the law, by the penalties it denounces upon transgression of which all are guilty, is a ministration of death, so the gospel, by the deliverance it promises and secures, is a ministration of life. The one destroys, because men have failed in their obedience; the other saves, because Christ has perfectly fulfilled the law in our behalf, and suffered the penalties which sinners have deserved. But to whom are these benefits available? *To every one that believeth.* If, therefore, my brethren, under a sense of guilt and a feeling of danger, you apply to the Redeemer; if, humbled, broken-hearted, penitent, you come to him who alone