

presence, for the heavens have received him. Yet where two or three are gathered together in his name, he is in the midst of them. Yet he said, Lo! I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Yet, says the apostle, We live with him even while we *wake*! Yet at the same time, others live with him when they *sleep*—The dead are with him above, while the living are with him below! How? unless he pervades all periods, and occupies all places? How? unless he can say, "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" It is obvious the apostle viewed him as omnipresent, and could say, "Whom have I in *heaven* but Thee? and there is none upon *earth* I desire beside Thee."

Here is your happiness Christians; it is your union with Christ. This prepares you for all seasons, and all conditions. Do you think of life? This is sometimes discouraging; especially when you contemplate the prospect in a moment of gloom. But why should you be dismayed? If you *wake* you will live together with him. If your continuance here be prolonged, you will not be alone; He will always be within call, and within reach. He will render every duty practicable, and every trial supportable, and every event profitable. And, therefore, whatever be your circumstances, you may boldly say, "Nevertheless I am continually with thee; thou hast holden me by my right hand. Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory." Do you think of death? This is often distressing, and there is much in it to dismay—if viewed separate from Him. But if you *sleep*, you will live together with him. Death, that serves every other bond, cannot touch the ligatures that unite you to him. As you leave others, you approach nearer to him; you get *mor*; perfectly into his presence—you are forever with the Lord.

Voltaire more than once says, in his Letters to Madame Dufand, "I hate life, and yet I am afraid to die." A christian fears neither of these. He is willing to abide, and he is ready to go. Life is his. Death is his. Whether we wake or sleep, we shall live together with him.

A New way of reading Acts 8: 36—39.

AS DEVISED BY THE CLERGY.

"And the parents took their child to a certain meeting-house, and said, see here is water in the basin, what does hinder to us have our infant christened? The minister answered and said, if either of you believe, it may be done. The father then answered, saying, I believe in the Westminster Confession of Faith, and Catechisms Larger and Shorter. Then the priest, the parents, and the child drew near to the basin, and after consecrating the element, the priest besprinkled the infant's face. Then the spirit of Anti-Christ caught away the parson and he was