

change will be seen outwardly, if it exist inwardly.

“Natural life began when we were born into the world. Spiritual life begins at the cross of Christ.”

Unchanged and unrenewed man must be really “born again,” and receive Christ as a Saviour, and as Life, before he can live for God.

God’s work begins in the heart, and works outward, till it changes the whole man, and every word and work of that man.

The heart, the centre of man, must be right first. There is no good cleaning the face of a clock while the mainspring is broken. No use dealing with the outward man, while the inward man is all wrong.

### THE “ATONEMENT”

was needed on account of man’s sin, and God’s holiness.

It was provided by God’s love.

The atonement of Christ was the *proof* of God’s love to man.

God proved the *fact* of His love, the *greatness*, and the *freeness*, of His love.

The *fact* of His love by providing a remedy for a fallen world.

The *greatness*, by providing such a sacrifice.

The *freeness*, because we not only could not merit such a gift, but we never even asked Him.

Atonement is God’s gift to man, and the power of atonement is in the blood. “It is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.” (Lev. xvii. 11.) God and the sinner *at one* through Jesus.

### A PRESENT SALVATION.



LOOK at it for a moment in this way.

God loved and gave, gave His Son, gave salvation.

The sinner believes and has, has salvation.

On God’s side, His free-giving.

On man’s side, our free-taking and receiving.

That is the *present possession* of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. I take God at His word, believe what He says, accept His gift, and rejoice in the present possession of such a gift.

The fact remains the same whether I

believe it or not, that God gave His Son; everlasting life has been purchased for me; 1,800 years ago everything necessary was done *on God’s side*, for my salvation. Nothing I do can alter the fact. I shall go without the blessing, without the joy and peace, without the possession of it, *unless I accept it for myself*. It will be my own loss and fault. I cannot blame anyone else.

Remember, that the sight of a river will not quench thirst; food may be on your table, very near you, but unless you partake of it, you will derive no benefit; so you will never be really satisfied, or happy, till you come to Christ and make His salvation yours.

### “CONDEMNATION”—“SALVATION.”

Two important words with which we all have to do. We must know the former, or else we shall never understand the latter. There are three steps comprised in these two words.

1. A *knowledge* of our lost condition as sinners, by the light of the Holy Spirit.

2. An *assurance* of Christ’s sufficiency as a Saviour.

3. *Acceptance* of the salvation which God has provided in Christ.

In these three steps we shall experience the change out of the old creation, with its *condemnation and death*, into the new creation, with its *justification and life*.

### GOD’S ORDER IN SALVATION.

1. The Father designed.
2. The Son executed.
3. The Holy Ghost applies.

### ORDER IN OPERATION.

3. The Holy Ghost (John xvi. 13) points to
2. The Son (John xiv. 6), the way, the life
1. The Father receives, welcomes, pardons, &c.

*Reason* alone, will never lead a human soul to the knowledge of the living God. Religion must be a thing of personal experience, a thing of the *heart*, or it is worthless. Not only accept with the understanding, but also receive with the heart, *then* it will be real.