

dear girl was bright and cheerful in life, and even in her death she preferred to look upon the bright side of things. This was noticeable not only in her favorite scriptures, but in her ordinary thoughts and spiritual ideas. It was not until the very last that she despaired of being present at the services in connection with the opening and dedication of this new church building. Nor was this a vain or morbid desire ; for much as she loved to be present on that occasion, I believe she thought more of the truth that would feed her soul than of any time, place or circumstance. This characteristic came out most beautifully in her views of death, which she regarded in the true Christian light of being " far better," inasmuch as it brings the soul into personal and perfect fellowship with the dear and loving Saviour. Happy all those who in the presence of the " King of Terrors " can cheerfully and resignedly say : " I have a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better." " For me to live is Christ, but to die is gain." " O Death, where is thy sting, O Grave, where is thy victory ! "

In studying this passage the following thoughts claim attention :

1. The universality of the Gospel offer of salvation.
2. The individuality of the Gospel offer of salvation.
3. The terms upon which salvation may be obtained.
4. The certainty of salvation to all who comply and accept.
5. The content or character of salvation as it concerns the individual soul.

1. Truly this is one of the glorious invitations of the Gospel. And what renders these invitations glorious is their universal applicability. They are for all who will accept of them. Judged from this standpoint, our text need not give place to any other ; for it is capable of embracing in its capacious sweep the whole brotherhood of man. No one is excluded from participation in the benefits conferred upon mankind by the life of obedience, by the death of expiation effected by the Saviour, Jesus Christ. He stands forth in this place, offering the blessings of salvation to all alike, high and low, rich and poor, learned and illiterate. Let us thank God for so great salvation—a salvation that is so great as to reach to the most obscure person in the most obscure corner of the universe that He has made. This salvation is high as Heaven, deep as Hell, and wide as the distance between east and west. The Cross of Christ is simply God's love imbedded in human woe, overshadowing it with extended arms wherever it exists, and pointing and helping human souls upward into the fellowship and blessedness of God.