

In the tenth of Acts—verse 36, God is spoken of as, “Preaching peace by Jesus Christ.” Is that not to “speak peace” by His word? And since He preaches (proclaims openly) can any doubt that He is speaking it? But what is understood by peace? I am not sure that we are of one mind as to that. When you say that you have not peace, that God has not yet spoken peace to you, you mean *the sentiment of peace in yourself*—the inward assurance of having been pardoned and reconciled to God, and at peace with Him. Now, however desirable and important this sentiment may be, it is only *the effect* of peace with God by our Saviour Jesus Christ, and not that peace itself, and it is important that you should understand what God has declared concerning it. May the Lord give me the ability to present it clearly before your soul, and that thus the effect which you so ardently desire may be produced, that is to say the inward sentiment of peace, and of reconciliation to God.

You and I have both sinned against God. By nature we *are* sinners, and during many years we have lived a life of sin and rebellion against God. You can accept that now although a little while ago you could not have done so. Perhaps you have always acknowledged that it was true; but now you know and feel that it is indeed the truth. Well then, God had sufficient cause to be angry with us on account of our sins; and, indeed *He is angry against sin*, and hates it with a perfect hatred. But while justly angry against *our sins*, He loved *us* and