

other hand a thirst for vengeance, is merely unintelligent. To say that men are responsible if it means anything, means that they must somehow, somewhere, somewhen respond. There must come a time when in the light of truth the hidden shall be made open, and the open revealed in its true colors, and all falsehood and self-deception wither away. This is as necessary for the wrong-doer as for the righteous; and without it life would, morally, lead to no conclusion at all.

But for those who accept the revelation of God in Christ, there is yet firmer ground. To believe in God is to believe not only in rationality and righteousness, it is to believe in a perfect and eternal Love at the heart of life. It is to believe in a love that is more than benevolence, a love that sets its desire upon each of us by himself and for himself, that is afflicted in our afflictions, wronged in our wrongs, wounded and grieved by our sins, that has gone to the Cross for us and sought us through the gates of Death and Hell. We are not ripples on the surface of an oceanic Absolute. We are not tools of a Great Artificer to be used until blunted and worn out, then flung aside. We are not God's workmen whom He may calmly bury, relay after relay, provided that the work goes on. We are His children holding each a place in His love which no substitute can ever occupy, to whom He has bound Himself with ties which not even sin, much less time, can sever. If we believe in God by Jesus Christ, if to our souls the Love of God which is in Him shines in its own light as the Supreme Reality, we are on the surest foundation as regards the life to come. We need no spiritualistic manifestations, no far-fetched metaphysical reasonings. In Christ we have found God, a God whom frail, mortal and sinful as we are, we can trust, trust for ourselves, for those whom we love and for all men; trust for to-day and for to-morrow, for the great step into the unseen and for what lies beyond it, knowing that whatever unimaginable changes may be in store for mortals there, all of blessed and good each is capable of receiving He will ever bestow.