

"I wish to speak to you of the infinite love of God for sinners, and of His mercy towards them."

"Yes," he replied impatiently, "of His love for believers, of His mercy towards those who repent, is it not?" I have already told you that I am not of that happy class," he added with irony.

"You do not understand me," I replied. "I speak of the love of God towards the *unrighteous*, and of His mercy for *sinners*."

"You would not however say that God loves *such as I am*?"

"Yes, that is just what I say," I replied, seriously and impressively. "Our Lord Jesus Christ has said; 'God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,' and it is that world of which it is written that it lieth in wickedness, (Jno. iii. 16; 1 Jno. v. 19). The apostle Paul also says; 'God commendeth His love towards us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us' (Rom. v. 8). Since, then, you belong to this world which lies in wickedness, and that you are a sinner, you are one of those whom God loves."

He regarded me with surprise and said; "If such is the mercy of God, tell me how I can obtain pardon."

"The love which pardons our sins" I replied, "is manifested in the cross of Christ, who hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust," (1 Pet. iii. 18). "Christ died for the ungodly, while we were yet sinners He died for us," (Rom. v. 6-8). The message concerning the death of Christ is announced