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"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning." — PSALM CXXXVII. 5.

HOW TO BE SAVED.

(SERMON ON LUKE 14: 33.)

CHRIST'S word is quite clear, that you cannot be His disciple unless you forsake all for Him. "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be My disciple." "Go and sell that thou hast . . . and come and follow Me." "He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he that taketh not his cross and followeth after Me is not worthy of Me." (Luke 14: 33; Luke 18: 22; Mat. 10: 37-39.)

You say that you cannot comply with those terms. They call you to a sacrifice you cannot make. You say that you have neither the will nor the power to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ. Therefore, when you face these terms and come to see that you cannot explain them away, and that Christ cannot modify them, you turn away sorrowful, for in your own way you have great possessions.

Every one that knows his own heart understands your difficulty and appreciates your distress. The world of your own will, of your own pursuits, of your prized possessions, is a very real and very precious world to you, and you are honest and true when you say that you cannot give it up. *But it is equally true that you cannot keep it.* You know this from the past. Your self-will has often been thwarted, your self-chosen pursuits have often been ar-

rested, and your most precious possessions have often been taken away. And is not the conviction daily deepening in your heart that the things you say you cannot give up for Christ will soon all vanish? The forces of life, and ultimately the strong hand of death, will wrest from you every one of the things which you now prefer to Christ. And what will be your position then? You will be without them, and also without Christ. You will then have nothing but your lost soul, the undying sting of conscience, and the shame—the eternal shame—of refusing Christ for the sake of a world that deserted you after completing your ruin. You cannot give up the world, that is true, every human heart that has tried it testifies that you cannot; but neither can you keep it, every tomb in the wide world proves that you cannot. And in your strait between these two there is only one way of escape.

When you ask how you are to forsake all and follow Christ, in Christ's own words the answer is this: "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." *You need not give up anything till you accept Christ as your Saviour and put your life wholly into His hands.* You cannot overcome the world, but He has overcome it, and the moment you give yourself up to Him His overcoming power is put forth in you and through you and you are delivered. In Him, in His grace, in His fellowship, in His service, you find a new world, and the old one is not given up only, but it also gives up you. The thought of sacrifice on your part, and the difficulty of forsaking all for Christ, vanish from you, and you find in Him such gain, such freedom, such a large life, such peace and rest, that you give