

ARE YOU TIRED?

Reader, I believe there are many persons who are weary and tired of everything in this life, and yet have nothing to cheer them in looking forward to the life to come. Are you one?

I believe there are many who are thoroughly unhappy in their own hearts, though they will not confess it—unhappy because they know that they are not living as God would have them—unhappy because they know that they are not fit to die. Are you one?

There is rest for the weary even in this world, if they will seek it. There is repose for the tired and heavy laden, if they will only apply for it in the right quarter in time.

There is a real, solid, lasting happiness to be had on this side of the grave, if people will but inquire for it where it is to be found.

Where is this rest? Where is this repose? Where is this happiness? It is to be found in Christ Jesus. It is given by him to all children of mankind who will confess their need and humbly ask him to receive them. It is enjoyed by all who hear Christ's voice and follow him. It is the privilege of all who believe on Jesus.

"Come unto me," he says, "all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "We which have believed do enter into rest," says his servant Paul (Matt. xi. 28; Heb. iv. 3).

Reader, I invite you this day in my Master's name to come to Christ and be his disciple, if you want to be happy. Cease to seek happiness in the vain things of this world. Give up pride, the self-will, the sinful stubbornness of your own ways. Come to Jesus as a humble sinner, and cast your soul on him, and the rest I have spoken of shall be your own.—*Rev. J. C. Ryle.*

THERE WILL BE A LAST KNOCK.

"Behold," says Jesus, "I stand at the door and knock." Does not this imply His readiness and willingness to come in? Nor is this all. He calls, "Open unto me—open unto me." Nor is this all. He

says, "If any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in." He positively declares that He is willing. Nor is this all. You may say, I am such a great sinner. I have rejected Him so long that He will not receive me now. But what says the Saviour? "If any man hear my voice," vile as he may be, if he is on this side of hell—"if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and sup with him, and he with me."

If you are not now a Christian, permit me to say, that you have never yet heard His voice, nor opened the door, nor been willing to receive Him. The Saviour is ready and willing, but you will not come to Him that you might have life.

Behold your danger! The Saviour stands at your door. He does not sit. He stands—ready to enter or ready to depart. How long would you stand at the door of your neighbour asking for admittance, if he should bar and bolt you out? And how long has Christ stood knocking? Even till His head is filled with the dew, and His locks with the drops of the night. But He will not stand long. *There will be a last knock.* The Saviour can do without you, but you cannot do without Him. He may say, as He once said to the Jews, "I go my way. Ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins. How often I would, and ye would not." Behold your house is left unto you desolate."

Reader! how solemn is this: there will be a last knock at the door of your heart!

To-day, if ye will hear His voice,
Now is the time to make your choice;
Say, will you to Mount Zion go?
Say, will you have this Christ or no?

Ye wandering souls, who find no rest,
Say, will ye be for ever blest?
Will you be saved from sin and hell?
Will you with Christ in glory dwell?

Come now, dear soul, for ruin bound,
Obey the Gospel's joyful sound;
Come, go with us, and you shall prove
The joy of Christ's redeeming love.

Once more we ask you in His name—
For yet His love is still the same—
Say, will you to Mount Zion go?
Say, will you have this Christ or no?

—*Herald of Mercy.*