

what seldom could have happened in the annals of mining, the rock, instead of exploding asunder by the blast, in the ordinary way, split asunder, discharging the force of the blast against the opposite side to that where J—— stood, and upheaved a large portion of the rock in an almost perpendicular position; thus forming a shield which sheltered J—— from the explosion leaving him perfectly unscathed.

Now, my reader, think of your precious soul being placed in such a position—the living God and an interminable future to face—and ask yourself, “How would it be with me?” Would it be like the noble hearted Christian, J——? calm in the consciousness of his Saviour’s love, and in the truth of his God—stepping into eternity without a cloud? The calm, peaceful, wondrous beauty of his peace with God and his self-forgetfulness fills the heart, and his love for the unsaved soul of his comrade, T——. If you were in a moment of pressure, like this, how would it be with you?

When J—— came up he was asked why it was he could be insane enough to do this? He told them that he knew the blessed Son of God had come down from heaven, and died for him in love, washing away his sins in His own blood—and he knew that when he was blown to pieces (as he thought he should have been) he would go to heaven to be with Him forever! He knew, too, that poor T——, who was with him, if he was blown to pieces, would have been lost forever in hell, and he could lay down his life happily for his comrade’s sake, and in the consciousness of what his God was to him as a Saviour.

Dear reader, let me ask you, **ARE YOU READY?** A moment like that tests the foundation on which a man is resting; whether he is resting on his works, or efforts, his religion and its ordinances, *or on Christ!* All else is rubbish in a moment like that.