

NONE BUT CHRIST.

BY THE REV. J. C. RYLE, HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

YOUNG READER,—I hope you are travelling in the way that leads to heaven. There are many false roads. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the ends thereof are the ways of death." Suffer me to say a few words about the right way. It would be an awful thing to make a mistake.

The Apostle Peter shows us the way to heaven in the 4th chapter of the Acts. He there says of Christ (Acts iv. 12), "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved." Now what is this? On our clearly seeing this very much depends.

He means that no one can be saved from sin—its guilt, power, and consequences—excepting by Jesus Christ.

He means that no one can have peace with God the Father—obtain pardon in this world,—and escape wrath to come in the next,—excepting through the atonement and mediation of Jesus Christ.

In Christ alone God's rich provision of salvation for sinners is treasured up. By Christ alone God's abundant mercies come down from heaven to earth. Christ's blood alone can cleanse us. Christ's righteousness alone can clothe us. Christ's merit alone can give us a title to heaven. Jews and Gentiles—learned and unlearned—kings and poor men—all alike must either be saved by Jesus, or lost for ever.

And the apostle adds these strong words, "There is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved." There is no other person commissioned, sealed, and appointed by God the Father to be the Saviour of sinners, excepting Christ. The keys of life and death are committed to his hand, and all who would be saved must apply to him.

There was but one place of safety in the day when the flood came upon the earth, and that was Noah's ark. All other places and devices—mountains, towers, trees, rafts, boats—all were alike useless. So also there is but one hiding-place for the sinner who would escape the storm of God's anger must venture his soul on Christ.

There was but one man to whom the Egyptians could go in the time of famine, when they wanted food. They must