

pray for pardon for Christ's sake, and love *Him* for his love of them, shall not only be released from the punishment due to their sins, but shall be forgiven, and received into the favour of God, and His dear Son.

Is any one disposed to argue here, what can a young child understand of atonement, of the sufferings of one being making satisfaction for the sins of another, or what is the need of perplexing a child with such subjects? Let us first meet the question, as to the *necessity* of drawing a child's attention to these things.

If a child be old enough to distinguish between right, and wrong, it is old enough to sin, and if its age *permit*, we are too sure that its nature will *incline*, it, to be guilty of sin; and having sinned, it is liable to God's wrath, should it die conscious of offence, but unconscious of pardon through Christ. There is then every need that the youngest child, who is capable of sin, should be taught the only way by which sin can be forgiven. To enquire precisely when such accountability begins, or what is the latest period to which such instruction may be deferred, without danger, is not only an unprofitable enquiry, but is itself dangerous, inasmuch as it is always dangerous to approach the verge of danger. Rather answer the question, can a child be too soon brought to know Christ, or be too soon made meet for the kingdom of heaven? And if it cannot, seek not to know how

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