

PEACE.

IF the Lord speaks "peace" to the soul, what is the meaning of it? This gives it power, that it is not a mere passing word of kindness, but peace, eternal peace; because peace is made by His having borne our sins—by virtue of what He accomplished on the cross. It is on this ground He says "peace;" and if you see that in this sense He never speaks "peace" till He is risen, you see that "being justified by faith we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ." "Much more then being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." (Rom. v, 9). Has your soul known this peace? and have you known what it is to be lost? Not merely acknowledging the need of a Saviour, or looking for supplies from Jesus, but knowing that what was due to you was borne by Jesus?

It presses too keenly on the heart and conscience to look at the cross unless you can say, it is peace.

The careless heart of man cannot bear to look at the cross, except he be at the foot of it, acknowledging his need of it; for he has to measure himself by the wrath poured out on Jesus. But if your back is turned on the cross, there is none to give peace. The cross may cause us shame when it leads us to see what sin is; but itself, it is the power of God unto salvation. Haste then to God who beseeches you to be reconciled. And may the Lord, in the riches of His grace, show you the vileness of sin, and that Jesus has drank the bitter cup of wrath but is now the risen Saviour; that you may enter this life of peace through Him who, in that He died, died unto sin once, that he who lives might live unto God.

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