

a longer and more varied experience of him. Our love of him has become more dominant and supreme. As we grow older in our spiritual life, we become more sensitive to the presence of Jesus, to the necessity of him, and to his indispensable sweetness.

*The world needs Jesus.*

What would the world be without Jesus ? We may perhaps have sometimes made pictures to ourselves of the day of judgment. We may have imagined the storms above and the earthquakes underneath, the sun and the moon darkened, and the stars fallen from heaven, fire raging over the face of the earth, men crying to the mountains and rocks to fall upon them and hide them, and in the masses of the eastern clouds Jesus coming to judge the world.

Yet the misery and the confusion of earth at that day will have less of real horror than the earth without Jesus would have. An earth without hope or happiness, without love or peace, the past a burden, the present a weariness, the future a shapeless terror, such would the earth be, if there were no Jesus.

His Five Wounds are pleading for ever at the Right hand of the Father. They are holding back divine indignation. They are satisfying divine justice. They are moving divine compassion. Even temporal blessings come from them. They are bridling the earthquake and the storm, pestilence and famine and a thousand other temporal consequences of sin. We cannot exaggerate the utter destitution of a fallen world without redeeming grace. With the apostate angels this destitution is an eternal hell.

*Sorrow needs Jesus.*

When sorrow comes upon us, how should we bear it without him ?

Let the child of a few weeks lie like a gathered lily, white, cold, faded, dead, before the eyes of his fond mother ! But the waters of baptism have passed upon him ! What are those waters, but the Blood of Jesus ? Now she can sit and think, and be thankful even while