

against a God who is merely indulgent. You begin to feel that if God is the Father and the King, He is also the Judge of the earth and of the universe, and that He would not say, "You have broken my law and trodden it under foot, but I am so very kind, it does not matter at all." You would not respect that God.

Then you turned to Christ again. Then you heard the voice of John the Baptist saying, "Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world." Then you have a vision of One hanging upon a cross for you, and you feel that the majesty of God's law was never more revered and honored than on that cross. And again, that the infinite love of God through Christ crucified is poured upon you in boundless streams of mercy. What a vision that was! Were you obedient to that vision? Oh, my friends, if there is anything sad in the world, it is to see men and women that have come close to the cross with tears in their eyes, and then have turned their back upon the cross of Christ and become its enemies. Living for themselves and not for Him. Living for the things of the world and forgetting Christ. Leaving Him to suffer on that cross, and suffer, as far as they are concerned, in vain. I have read that there is no ice that is harder to melt than ice that has been once melted and frozen the second time. So the soul that has begun to melt before the heart of Christ and then refuses to lay its sins on the Lamb of God, that heart is the hardest and the most difficult to break again. But if you have been obedient to the heavenly vision, then you have *another vision* after awhile. You have found that Christ is not only the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world, but that He is, and claims to be, your Lord and Master. By His redemption He has not only delivered you, but purchased you. You are bought with a price. You are not your own. And then, perhaps, has come a great struggle. You are willing enough to have your sins forgiven and

give some of your heart and time and gifts to Christ. But what, shall He have everything? Is He my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? Shall I accept Him as my Master? If I do so, then I cease to belong to myself. If I do so, who knows what He will require of me? Where shall He lead me? What shall He give me to do and bear? And you have trembled, as well you might, at the thought of being disobedient. If you obey, what then? If not, you are an unhappy Christian, a very miserable one, a very fruitless one. You cannot make a choice and say, I take you for my Saviour, not for my Lord. Of course, the first thing He says is, "Come unto me, and I will give you rest." But the next thing is, "Take my yoke upon you." And if you do not, you soon lose the rest. If you have obeyed, how happy you are! Then you find that the Lord is the gentlest of masters, far gentler than those who love us best. He always fits the yoke to the bearer. He deals with us with infinite tenderness. His touch is delicate and light. He knows just what we are able to do and bear. He knows whether we are young in the spiritual life or further advanced, and His service is, indeed, true freedom. But then, again, after a little time you have *another vision*. You will be astonished to find out that although you have received Christ as a Sin-bearer and as a Master, though it seems to you that you have the best intentions and desires, yet the law of sin in your very members makes you cry out, "Oh, wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from this body of death?" Even while you admire the law of Christ, you will find that you are ready to give up the fight. You are ready to say, "How can I serve Him even if I wish?" Then He reveals Himself as He who is not only your Lord, but your Life. Then He shows you that He first of all gives you that which He asks of you. Every one of His precepts is bound up with a promise. When He says, "Take up thy bed and walk," He so enables us to do. If there is a law of the flesh,