

an issue of blood twelve years, and had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, when she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched His garments : for she said, If I may but touch His clothes, I shall be whole. And STRAIGHTWAY (immediately) the fountain of her blood was dried up ; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague." There is an immediate consciousness of blessing when we come to Christ believably. Again, when He entered into the house of the ruler of the Synagogue and found that his daughter was dead, He took her by the hand, and said unto her " Talitha cumi ; which is being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And STRAIGHTWAY (immediately) the damsel arose and walked ; for she was of the age of twelve years." The teaching of these facts is very clear and very blessed. They all assure us that Jesus saves instantly those who come unto him. He gives immediate life and strength and joy. What a lesson is this to learn ! To act upon it when it is learned is to put an end to all sorrow and sadness and misery of life ; it is to find in Christ JESUS SALVATION. A present and perfect salvation. Dear reader has this been your experience ? or are you unsaved to-day ? If so, think of these works of Christ Jesus as typical of what He will do for you. But, perhaps, you say, "these were done eighteen hundred years ago." Yes, and they have been teaching and blessing men all that time, and bringing them to Jesus, for He is the same yesterday, to-day and for ever. He changes not. He is the everlasting God. His heart towards sinners on earth is the same to-day as it was eighteen centuries ago. He longed to save them then, and he longs to save them now. When they turn away from His offered mercy and grace His plaint is " Ye will not come to me that ye might have life." O believe it, Jesus saves now, "*immediately,*" every soul that cometh to Him for rest from the burden of sin, for peace from the terrors of an awakened conscience, for life from the death of iniquity and unrighteousness. This is glad tidings, indeed, to the weary, the woeful,

the lost. Instant salvation on coming to Jesus !

But do you ask, how can this be ? We answer, 1. *Jesus has atoned for sin.* He has borne its penalty. He died, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. Once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. He hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us. He has done it ! He has done it ! Done it once for all ! He has made atonement for sin. A perfect and perpetual atonement for sin.

2. *God has accepted this atonement on our behalf.* His testimony to this fact we have in the resurrection of Chr from the dead. He was declared to be the Son of God with power (and therefore a perfect and satisfactory propitiation for sin) according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. He was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. When He had by Himself purged our sins, He sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, in Divine acceptance as the Redeemer of men, as the Saviour of sinners. And, therefore,

3. *We are urged to trust in Christ as our accepted Sacrifice.* He is our sin-bearer. He is our substitute. Nothing now remains to be done in order to the removal of sin. The expiation of Jesus has effected all that God demands on that score. With Christ's work God is well pleased—satisfied. So that Christ Jesus has by His redemptive work opened up the way of eternal life to all who believe. And now this is the testimony of God, that He hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son, hath life ; he that hath not the Son of God, hath not life. While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities ; and now, the appropriation of Christ as our atoning sacrifice must be made. Now, He must be accepted as our sin-bearer, if we would be delivered from the condemnation and power of sin, and live unto God. Hence the