

We observe, secondly, that it is the duty and privilege of every gospel hearer to be saved at once, because God has made provision for men's salvation, not only in the atonement of his Son, but also in the work of his Holy Spirit. The work of the Spirit is just as necessary to the salvation of man as the work of the Son. The Spirit awakens, convinces of sin, takes of the things of Jesus and shows them unto men, enlightens, purifies, and comforts, through the truth which he uses as his instrument; for he is the Spirit of truth. Were no Holy Spirit provided for men, they could not be saved. Because men cannot awaken themselves, cannot convince themselves of sin, cannot present the saving truth about Jesus to their own minds, cannot enlighten, purify, and comfort their own souls. They can understand and receive the awakening, convicting truth; they can believe the gospel, so as to be enlightened, purified and comforted by the means of it. But they need the Spirit to show them their state, their sins, and Jesus as suited to their wants. If there be any men for whom the converting influence of the Spirit has not been provided, their salvation is an impossibility. It could not be the privilege of such to be saved, and it could not be their duty. But the Spirit has been poured out on all flesh; he strives with man; he convinces the world of sin: just as truly as the wind blows everywhere on earth, so does the Spirit brood over the world of mind. All minds everywhere are baptized by an influence from on high; an influence which is moral and not physical, and therefore resistible, to which, therefore, it is their duty to yield and be saved. Reader, the Spirit has been and is dealing with you to save you. Resist him not. Believe his true testimony respecting Jesus, as well as his testimony respecting your sinfulness and danger, and thus be saved.

We observe, thirdly, that it is the duty and privilege of every gospel hearer to be saved at once, because it is said that God will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. God desires the salvation of all men. This is one reason specified by the Apostle Paul why Christians should pray for all men. If, then, God desire the salvation of all men, he must be doing all that he wisely can to save men. We have seen that he has provided the propitiation for sin, that he has sent forth his holy Spirit to strive with men to lead them to Jesus. He has thus manifested the intensity of his desire for men's salvation. If then, O reader, it be God's desire to save you, it must be your duty and your privilege to be saved. *God*