

death. But yet, not on this earth, but in Heaven, in the great future, is man to expect this *full* restoration. On this earth we are being trained for that time and place, and we receive here the foretaste of Heaven, but as long as we live here we must bear, in our various sufferings, some of the results of the fall; the world because of it being partly in the power of Satan, and we all because of it are looking forward to the death of the body. We are not saved in a moment. It is a long process, entailing much fighting and pain; and many there are who shall refuse or neglect to fight, and so shall lose the reward offered by the Saviour to those who in His strength overcome.

But now let us go back to our main subject, Divine Worship. What, let us enquire, was the character of man's worship *after he had fallen*? It must have been at its best weak, blemished, imperfect. Man's spirit was degraded by the fall, so that his worship must henceforth have much in it that is unspiritual. His mind was darkened by the fall: so that in his worship he must often err and worship unwisely. His body was weakened by the fall: so that it would weary him to worship long—it would be impossible for him to worship as he was created to do. Therefore fallen man is incapable of offering to God of himself true and acceptable worship: his highest efforts are nothing compared with what they should be; his best actions are stained with sin and error; his choicest offerings valueless in God's eyes.

Was man and is man, then, to give up endeavouring to worship God? By no means: for what he was incapable of doing of himself, God has made him capable of doing through Jesus Christ; so that fallen man *can* worship God fully and acceptably *through Jesus Christ*. Let us see how.

Jesus came to be the Second Adam; which signifies that He came to stand towards our race in the place of the First Adam, so that He might restore to us what the First Adam deprived us of. And so where the First Adam was disobedient, He was obedient; where the First Adam fell, He overcame; what the First Adam failed to accomplish, He accomplished fully. And then, moreover, He "bore our sins in His own Body on the tree," in order that by His stripes we might be healed.

The Father beheld Him whilst He lived on earth, and said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased," for the life of Jesus on earth was a life of perfect service and highest worship without fault or failing.

But He came to be man's representative and to offer up on man's behalf the service and worship due from man, which man was unable to offer; and

so through Him there was forgiveness for man and acceptableness; JESUS filling up what was lacking in man's life, with His own infinite righteousness, and thereby enabling man through Him to have access to the Father.

From this it follows that *apart from JESUS*, fallen man can have no access to the Father; cannot be forgiven; cannot be acceptable; cannot even pray or worship. JESUS is "the Way," and the only Way, as well as the Truth and the Life. Therefore, fallen man from the moment he fell must offer up worship to God, *in the name of Jesus*, or else his worship cannot enter Heaven. He must continually offer to GOD, instead of his own defective, sinful service, the perfect, sinless service of JESUS, and must plead before God the sacrifice of JESUS as that which alone can rescue him from the death to which he was sentenced when he fell.

The death of JESUS on the Cross was the consummation and climax of His Sacrifice for man, for there shone forth in fullest glory, obedience, righteousness, godliness, self-sacrifice: and there he bore our sins and paid the penalty for them. Hence, when we plead CHRIST'S *death*, we plead His whole work of redemption, in it being summed up, as it were, His whole work for man on earth. Therefore is it, that until the end of the world *man must unceasingly plead before the Father this Death*, as the Rock on which is built all his hopes of salvation; as the source of all forgiveness and blessing.

Hence, the worship of fallen man must be SACRIFICIAL, *i. e.*, his prayers, his praise, his service can only be acceptable because of the sacrifice of JESUS; and can only be received by GOD when that sacrifice is pleaded; and more than that, since man's worship is so defective, the only valuable offering which man can offer to GOD, is this sacrifice of JESUS, which is the "only offering perfect" in GOD'S eyes.

But here two questions will suggest themselves: "How did man worship GOD through JESUS before JESUS came into the world?" and "How can man offer to GOD the sacrifice of JESUS?" I shall endeavour to answer these questions in subsequent papers.

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The Bishop Coadjutor confirmed a class of twenty-two on Sunday, February 24th, at Fairville, eleven males and eleven females. The Church was well filled, and the congregation very attentive. The Bishop gave two very excellent addresses, which it is hoped will leave a lasting impression.