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merciful could act thus. The most cruel earthly tyrants can torture their enemies, but they cannot create them for torture. God gives to all his creatures means to gain heaven; if they do not use them it is their own fault, not the fault of God. God predestined for heaven those whom He foreknows will freely keep his commandments. It would be unworthy of God to force any man to love and obey Him. Hence He endowed him with a free will to obey or not to obey, to love or not to love. It is also a most honourable condition for man to be free and not a forced slave.

Q. As Christ died and paid the ransom for all mankind, will not all be saved no matter what they do?

A. No; Christ ransomed all, and called them from bondage; but all, though ransomed, do not accept the call. "Many are called, but few are chosen," because they do not choose to keep God's law. "If you will enter into life, says Christ, keep my commandments" (Matt. xix. 17).

Q. What will become of those who never heard of Christ or redemption through Him?

A. God is a good Father, and will not punish those who had not the advantage of knowing his holy will. If these persons keep the laws of God written on their own consciences by nature herself, and do the best they know, God will be merciful to them. But how few will do this, unaided by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; hence, the necessity of sending to those people missionaries to preach to them the true doctrines of Christ, and to administer to them baptism, and the other sacraments instituted