

the attention of the sinner to Himself, anxious to awaken him and bring him into light, anxious to raise him up if he will only respond to the call? Such is the way the goodness and love of God is shown to sinners in afflictions; they cannot rise with their heavy chains upon them, but the Angel stands ready and willing and waiting to raise them up if they are willing to be raised, and the call is, Rise up QUICKLY, there is no time to be lost. NOW is the accepted time (2 Corinthians vi. 2). So our Saviour's call to Zaccheus was "Make haste and come down, for to-day I must abide at thy house" (Luke xix. 5). How many souls have been forever lost by putting off this rising up, though only for a week? How many still are willing to risk their escape from an eternal prison, not only for weeks, but months and years? A fatal temptation of the Devil is that of "*plenty of time yet*", to put it off yet a little longer.

Time was, is past; thou canst not it recall:

Time is, thou hast; employ the portion small:

Time future, is not; and may never be:

Time present, is the **ONLY TIME FOR THEE.**

Smiting is a necessary thing, for the sleeping prisoner does not heed the prison or the soldiers, neither would he feel the weight of his chains. To awaken him to a sense of his terrible danger, or the conviction of sin, is necessary first, then a willingness to accept the proffered help of the Angel to rise up, is necessary next. Had Peter preferred a little more sleep, or delay in rising up at the Angel's call, he might have been left to his fate in prison. This is too commonly the fate of numbers, who will not heed the loving call of God when He smiles, but make some excuse to themselves of inability to attend at that moment, intending at some future time to do so. Others there are who have been so far awakened as to have some sense of their posi-

tion
then
into
judg
lost
willi
Pete
in a
Ang
hana
pris
sam
prec
ners
to be
of C
the
off,
and
God
our
bloo
reco
are
2, 12
dark
(Col
is th
child
in th
E
v. 13
ed:
futu
is th
that
able
be w
prek