

THE CROSS OF CHRIST.

WHERE else can we learn the holiness and righteousness of God, as they are to be learned in the cross of Christ? Man was ruined. God was resolved to save. Grace must reign. But how! At the expense of righteousness? Nay, but 'through righteousness?' Before man fell God knew he would, and determined to make man's sin the occasion of unfolding depths of compassion and riches of grace in Himself, which otherwise must have been unmanifested and unknown. But is he therefore, to be unrighteous? Can He make light of sin as though there were little, if any, difference between sin and holiness? Far be the thought. He is indeed gracious, and His grace must reign and triumph. But it must be in such a way as vindicates His glory and manifests His holiness; and hence the cross of Christ. There we behold grace indeed; but there we see holiness as well. 'Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: that as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign (not at the expense of righteousness, but) THROUGH RIGHTEOUSNESS unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.' Rom. v. 20, 21.

"The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us who are saved it is the power of God." 1 Cor. i. 18.

Jesus say, 'verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on Me hath everlasting life.' John vi. 47.

"Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God and there is none else." Isaiah xlv. 22.