

“cleanses us from all sin ;” “with His stripes we are healed.” I might multiply passages ; I only now cite these, that the simple basis of the gospel in divine love on the one side, and on the other the work that love has brought to purge our sins, and withal our consciences, so that we may be in peace before a holy God, who is “of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on iniquity,” may be simply and fully before us.

We must come as sinners to God, because we are sinners ; and we can only come in virtue of that which, while it is the fruit of God's love, meets according to His holy nature the sins we are guilty of. But then, while it is true that our sins are removed far from us who believe through grace, as they were carried into a land not inhabited by the scapegoat in Israel, yet we have only an incomplete view of the matter in seeing our sins put away. On the great day of atonement (Lev. xvi.) the blood was sprinkled on the mercy-seat and before it, just as (Ex. xii.) it was sprinkled on the lintel and two door-posts to meet God's eye ; “When I see the blood,” He says, “I will pass over.” It was in view of the sin of Israel, but presented to God. The goat whose blood was shed on the great day of atonement, was called “Jehovah's lot.” The blood was carried within ; so it was with the bullock, and with the bullock it was exclusively this. The testimony was there, blessed be God, that as dwellers on the earth our sins have been carried