

of Jesus. A man may go to heaven without friends, a man may go without money, but he cannot go without Christ. How often is this truth emphasized by various figures in the old testament. The ark was the only place of safety when the flood came and destroyed the wicked antediluvians; the city of refuge was the only place of safety for the poor manslayer, so the only place of safety for the sinner is Jesus, the cleft rock of ages. God's revelation, which is His plumb line, clearly points out the fact that outside of Jesus there is no salvation. Apply the plumb line, my friends, to your hearts and consciences to-day. Are you in Jesus? Are you in Him by a true living faith? Is this your song:—

“Oh safe to the rock that is higher than I
My soul in its conflicts and sorrows would fly,
So sinful, so weary, thine, thine would I be,
Thou blest rock of ages, I'm hiding in thee,
Hiding in thee, hiding in thee,
Thou blest rock of ages, I'm hiding in thee.”

2nd. But again, God's plumb line defines the limit of salvation *as to time*. Here again this is true of the plumb line in man's hand. When the sailor casts the lead, if the plummet signifies shallow water or shoals then the mariner knows that the plummet defines the limit of time when the vessel may be saved. When the sailor cries “breakers ahead,” the ship's course must be changed or the anchor cast out *at once*. God's plumb line tells the sinner that “now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation.” God's word has no promise for to-morrow. Oh, if you are in the shoals of sin making shipwreck, or if you are simply a moral man, but “out of Christ,” then to-day is the limit of safety. Oh, hear his voice now and be saved. We have reason then to thank God for the plummet he has given as to place and time. O, the safety there is in Christ! Scientists tell us that amidst the noise and roar of the whirlwind there is a point where there is rest. Ah, sinner, amidst the sorrow and the woe and the strife of life there is a place where all is rest. “Come unto me, says Christ, and I will give you rest.” Come, then, come. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ with all your heart and you shall be saved.

II. Again, God has another use for his plumb line. *God's plumb line detects what is wrong or defective in our lives*. Builders use the plumb line in order that any deviations from the perpendicular may be revealed, and if the wall is crooked the