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Simon, who er that he That the v converted old him he and in the w did St. hen preach ese words. ly wickedhe thought ven thee." ; St. Peter ssed " the ed Simon 1 did so "If we nd just to a us from Wise-man

did so when he said, (Prov. xxviii., 13,) "Whoso confesseth and forsaketh his sin "shall have mercy?" or the Psalmist when he said, (xxxii., 5,) "I will confess my "transgression to the Lord, and thou for-"gavest the iniquity of my sin?"

Brethren, such a view may bring comfort to a few hearts. There may be some so constituted that they can lay hold of Christ without feeling the pangs of conscience strongly, simply because they have never been great sinners. But to say that the drunkard, who has desolated homes and ruined souls; the vile, immoral man, who has only lived to gratify lust; the murderer, whose hands have been dyed with blood; the infidel, who has trodden the Son of Man under foot,-to say that such men can be saved without ever being sorry for their sins, and confessing them to God, is to upset the whole plan of salvation, as far as man is concerned, and to open the floodgates of wickedness on the Church itself.