

was not manifested until Christ came. "The life was manifested," says the Apostle John, "and we have seen it, and show unto you that eternal life which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us." The Son was the manifestation of the eternal life that was with the Father, and "as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God." He came here to do the will of God, in a body prepared for Him, and in that body to bear our sins on the accursed tree; God laying on Him the iniquity of us all; made sin for us who knew no sin, in order that God might be just and the justifier of everyone who believeth in Jesus. What would any gift from God be to me if I did not believe in the source of it, even in His Son? God can now do what He never could do before. He can give His love full scope; and therefore the moment faith in Him is engendered in any soul, (the action of which faith is to look at God's revelation of His grace in Christ), the blessing—the portion—the gift of God to that soul is eternal life. Nothing less would answer to the love of God, now at liberty to indulge itself (if I may so say) through the righteousness established for the sinner by His own Son, and to express the full range and purpose of itself. Therefore it meets the sinner at the very start and threshold with this wondrous truth.—(See John iii). "He that believeth hath everlasting life." Other blessings and great glories follow; but God meets the condemned lost sinner at the point at which He had met the serpent-bitten Israelite afore-