

## THE GOSPEL OF OUR SALVATION.

THE gospel, by which we are saved, is that, "Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day, according to the scriptures." There is nothing about realization here. No doubt, it is happy to realize. It is a very happy thing for one, who was just on the point of being drowned, to realize himself in a life-boat; but, clearly he is saved by the boat and not by his realization. So it is with the sinner that believes on the Lord Jesus Christ. He is saved by death and resurrection. Is it because he realizes it? No, but because God says it. It is "*according to the scriptures.*" Christ died and rose again; and, on that ground, God pronounces him clean.

"No condemnation, O, my soul!  
'Tis God that speaks the word."

This gives immense peace to the soul. I have to do with God's plain record, which nothing can ever shake. That record has reference to God's own work. It is He Himself, who has wrought all that was needful, in order to my being pronounced clean in His sight. My pardon no more depends upon my realization than upon any "works of righteousness that I have done," and it no more depends upon my works of righteousness than it does upon my crimes. In a word it depends exclusively upon the death and resurrection of Christ. How do I know it? God tells me. It is "according to the scriptures."

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