

thou shall be saved. Art thou a murderer, swearer, drunkard, licentious? Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. There is no other method. Art thou virtuous, honorable, amiable, refined? What must you do to be saved? Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. There is no other answer. Not if I pay all my debts to my fellow men—if I am generous and every one speaks well of me? I try to be kind and pleasant in all my transactions. Will not that recommend me to heaven at the last? You must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be saved. He that believeth shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be condemned. We are all sinners before him in some way or other. One man has sinned in one way, another in another. You have not sinned in drunkenness and profligacy—you have had no temptation to do so—your companions did not lead you into such sins, or you have been too much engaged in your worldly business; but your heart may have gone astray as much as that profligate person. You may be as much a lover of yourself instead of God. You may have had more light and have quenched it, and you may be a greater sinner for ought I know and you know than those whom you regard as specimens of profligacy and evil. There is no other way of salvation than Jesus Christ. What, not if I believe in this or that church? You must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, or else believing in the church won't do. Not if I have been baptized? You must believe, or all the baptism in the world will do no good. But I am a member of society—have joined this or that class. All will do you no good unless you believe in Christ. But I have had great spiritual experience—I can tell you when I was converted and when I experienced great joy. Now if you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ you are saved, but not by your religious creed, not by your church professions or your outward conduct, not by any kindness you may have shown to God's people, not by all the benevolence and amiability and refinement and loveliness of your character, which we do not dispute or under-estimate. Nothing can save but the Lord Jesus Christ, just as if there were only one remedy for a fatal disease; and as long as you refuse that remedy, nothing can save you from dying. The Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and without him we cannot be saved; but he is able to save to the uttermost, to save every one, to save us. Oh, let us trust him:

Had I ten thousand gifts besides,
I'd cleave to Jesus crucified,
And build on Him alone;
For no foundation is there given
On which to place my hopes of heaven,
But Christ the corner stone.

Well, but says some one, you told us at the beginning you would tell us what the hem of the garment was. I remember years ago hearing an eminent divine whom I greatly admired say that the hem of the garment was the church and the clergy, and that those who wanted to be saved should come to the church and the clergy. You will perhaps say that is not the meaning of it, but tell us what it is—you have forgotten to tell us. Well, I may have forgotten, for we have been talking