

wide as the love and the work of Christ. His work is convincing *the world* of sin. He strives with *man*. He is poured out on *all flesh*. As Jesus died for sin "that the world through him might be saved," the Spirit strives with men, that he may bring them to Jesus. If men are not actually saved, their ruin is not to be ascribed to any lack of efficacy in the Redeemer's atoning work, nor to any want of dealing on the part of the Divine Spirit. Men resist, grieve, quench, vex the Spirit, when they refuse to yield to his influence and believe in the Saviour. God's complaint with respect to you, O unsaved sinner, is, not that you do not believe without the Spirit, but that you will not believe though he has provided the Spirit and though the Spirit has been wooing you, and seeking to win your heart to the Saviour.

It is your duty, O salvation-needing sinner to believe in Jesus and be saved.

This command to believe sustains most important relations to God's other commands in the moral law. By obedience to it, you are brought back to God. The truth you believe—the truth that Jesus atoned for your sins—as it discloses God's love to your soul, fills you with gratitude to God. Thus you love God, because he first loved you; and loving God, you delight to 'do his will. Thus the Gospel, when you believe it, takes you by the hand and leads you back to the path of obedience, and furnishes you with motives, which constrain you to walk in it. The Cross of Calvary is the starting-point of the Christian course. And when you come to the Cross, gladdened by its light and animated by its power, you begin to run in the way of God's commandments

The command to believe in Jesus is most gracious. It is a command to be saved. "Look unto me and be saved." Sinner, God commands you to be saved! Amazing mercy!

But consider that disobedience to this command to be saved will issue in dreadful woe to your soul. If you neglect the great salvation there is no way by which you can escape the just judgment of God. "He that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." John iii. 36.

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