

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because Jehovah hath anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; to bind up the broken hearted; to proclaim liberty to the captives; to open the prison door to those who are bound; to comfort all that mourn." "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "Whosoever cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out."

These declarations are still in force; to the anxious enquirer after truth they are as *fresh* as the day on which they were spoken. What Christ *was*, He *is*, and hath given us His word ever so to be. In Christ is no variableness nor shadow of turning. He is not in the habit of saying one thing and meaning another. His promises are YEA and AMEN. His words are not *vain* words; but have, and will have, an healing efficacy so long as one soul remains unsaved. "Jesus ever liveth to make intercession for us."

Is there not, beloved brethren, great comfort in all this? To be assured that amid "all the changes and chances of this mortal life," there is *one always the same*; as if to make up for what is hollow, uncertain, and variable in it. He is the sinners *only* friend; the *one* mediator between God and man; the Rock of Ages which eternity cannot alter or dissolve. Let me urge you to "Cast all your care upon Him for He careth for you." We know of no other who can be of such abiding service to you. In his right hand are the keys of life and death; His left, if I may so say, is ever outstretched to help the miserable and the outcast—the hopeless and the lost! He willet not that *any* should perish, but that *all* should come unto Him and live. His eternal purpose was, and is, to save sinners.

Come then, brethren, one and all and make venture of Christ's love. He died to redeem you, and waiteth, at this moment, to bestow his mercy and grace upon you. Why will ye keep him standing outside the door of your hearts and knocking in vain for admission? "Seek Him while He may be found." "Call upon Him while He is near." Hear His voice calling you *now*; open the door unto Him *now*; and He will not only come in and sup with you, but abide as your guest for ever. "His is love beyond a brothers;" only make trial of it, and you will not be disappointed.

A word in conclusion. You have all heard that this is to be my last sermon from this pulpit, and you must have