

and has fore-provided them with the way of escape. If it be true that to be forewarned is to be forearmed, this is what God has done in view of the judgment which is at the doors, whether men know it or not. And what is the way of escape? There is but one. The precious blood of Christ! The spotless, peerless, Saviour; the holy, the immaculate Son of God has given His precious blood, in other words given up His life, Himself, that we might be saved. When we know that He has died for us, death loses its terrors; when we know His precious blood has cleansed us, we learn that we are white as snow to the eye of a thrice holy God.

Oh! dear reader, wait not for dreams nor visions of the night, which God has never pledged Himself to give you, but give heed to His promise, the word of His grace, to which the Lord hath pledged Himself. For has He not said, "He that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out?" "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest!"

But oh! remember that solemn word which fell from His lips, "And if any man hear My words and believe not I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth Me, and receiveth not My words, hath one that judgeth him; the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." May the mercy of God lead you to repentance, and to a thorough surrender to the action of divine grace in preserving you from the wrath to come, and in blessing you for eternity. "The day is at hand."

### AN ABIDING REFUGE.

One of the most beautiful and comprehensive descriptions of Christ to be found in the old Testament Scriptures is that given by the prophet Isaiah, "And a Man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place; as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land," xxxii. 2. Here three ideas are combined, Refuge, Life, and Repose.—Hiding place and covert mean, substantially, the same thing, viz., shelter, defense, safety, deliverance from actual and from impending evil.

Jesus Christ, in this comprehensive sense, is the Refuge of His people. He hides them in the cleft of the rock till the evil be past. He shelters them, as a hen does her brood, when the tempest rages. He defends them when assailed by temptation, and covers their defenseless heads in the day of battle. Fleeing to this hiding-place, they find ample protection, and are made to rejoice in hope of the glory of God. No wind can blight them there; no tempest disturb the serenity of their souls. Almighty love is their refuge; incarnate mercy is their solace, and life, and repose.—S.

It is said that workmen who mine for copper in Cornwall under the sea, can always hear the roll of the ocean above them; but there are times when the raging tempests drives them in terror from their tasks. Thus do the ungodly make merry within sound of the trumpet blast of judgment. They dare not stop to think. O! to sell heaven for such passing joy is a fool's bargain.