

fought as well under another leader and failed. They were saved by their general, through the faith they placed in one who did for them what they could not do of themselves. A vessel is struggling in a storm, rocks abound, now hid, now overtopping the waters. The utmost efforts of the crew are unavailing; for they know not the channel. A pilot comes on board, he has never lost a ship, his name is a passport to safety. The seamen resign their vessel with all its hopes and destinies to him. He commands, and the helmsman obeys, and the sailors quickly handle the ropes. They are saved! How? By the merit of their deeds? They struggled hard before, but did not succeed. They were saved by faith! A child is climbing upon the roof of a mill erected on the brow of a lofty precipice. His feet give way and he slides away down, but just as he is about to fall, he catches, with a convulsive grasp, the spout which runs along the eaves. A man comes out, and sees his critical position. Stretching out his arms he cries, "fall into my arms and I will save you." The little one looks down and shudders. It is his only hope. He falls—and is saved! And how? He is saved through his faith. O ye sinful ones, bereft of strength, one who has done for you what no one else can do, stands beneath you. The "everlasting arms" are spread. Fall, and you are safe, though there is no merit in your falling.

III. *Its effects upon the mind.* "We have peace with God." By no other means of justification could we have peace. On the other alternative mentioned, our constant anxiety as to what is duty, and how it is to be performed, would prevent us from having peace here; and at the judgment, the possible discovery of our failure to meet divine requirements would deprive us of peace hereafter. Besides, in circumstances of so much importance, it is not in human nature to derive peace from trust in that which, from its having yet to be accomplished, is involved in uncertainty. As a means of salvation, we need to trust in what has already been done. Looking back upon the past, then, we find one who, as our professed representative, did for us in every point, what we have failed to do. No uncertainty here, and no possibility of a failure. "It is finished," and though earth and sky should perish, that which has been done shall stand, and our hope is "sure and steadfast." Tears vanish. And so does opposition. Instead of faith in the act of another leading the trusting ones to carelessness, and so opening the flood gates of immorality, their very confidence is the source of their obedience. As well expect the soldiers of the competent general, or the sailors who trust in their pilot, to sit idly by while they are being saved,