

This was all the Apostle's heaven and happiness—this is the heaven and happiness of the redeemed for ever and ever—to know—to enjoy—and to be for ever with their LORD. In proportion to our knowledge and enjoyment of CHRIST, we have an heaven upon earth; for in the knowledge and enjoyment of HIM, lies all the heaven and happiness we expect hereafter.

Let me appeal to your consciences, is not this the only reason why you wish to go to heaven, namely, that you may not go to hell? You have so little knowledge of heaven, and so little is your desire of going thither, that, if it was left to your own choice, you would be well content to give up your chance of heaven, if you was sure of not going to hell. Nay, in your own estimation, the chances against you are so great, that, if it was left to your choice, you had rather be annihilated, than run the risque of taking your trial at the bar of GOD. Hence a certain gloom hangs upon your mind, which you cannot possibly get rid of. One expedient after another is tried, in order to remove it. However any of them may seem to answer for a time, yet, when the novelty ceases, disgust follows—dissatisfied with yourself, an universal dissatisfaction ensues—however this gloom may seem to be lost in company and conversation, in the hurry of business, or in a round of diversions and amusements, yet it will again return; and the truth of the wise man's proverb will be experienced, who said, *That in laughter the heart is sorrowful, and that the end of mirth is heaviness.*

And what perhaps may appear more surprizing to yourself, and to the world in general, is, that you have lived in the habits of religion, and yet are a stranger to that blessed and glorious Hope in which some have been enabled