

YE WILL NOT COME TO ME, THAT YE MIGHT HAVE LIFE.

who is a communicant to indulge in wickedness, either of the tongue or of the body, and therefore, they avoid that which would put a manifest restraint upon their appetites, their passions, their short-comings. As you who so act have no desire to curb these propensities, do not care to give yourselves the trouble to do so, you will not go to Christ, that ye might have life.

You are quite right when you say that a communicant should lead a godly life. This ordinance is a sacrament, by which those who partake of it bind themselves by an oath to the service of our Lord and Saviour. Now it must be an unwillingness to do this which prevents so many in every congregation from eating and drinking of the elements which represent Christ's body and blood. If you really ever expect to derive—as I know you do—any benefit from Christ's death; if you do trust that you may have eternal life—that yours may never be the wages of sin, death—should you not in all reason, employ such means as are provided and set before you, for the rendering the matter a certainty?

If any of you expect to be paid by an insurance company for loss you may happen to sustain, you fulfil its conditions, that of renewing your policies from year to year: should you allow two or three payments to lapse or fall behind, and presented a claim for a recent disaster or accident, do you not know your application would be rejected, and with perfect fairness?

Now look at the case of one standing in the presence of God. His life is being looked into—the rather gone over. He hopes he is going to be permitted to pass in beyond those shining gates into the home of the blessed dead, from which are being wafted the sweetest sounds. The scrutiny proceeds, his life shows years of neglected duties, hurried prayers, formal services, days of neglected Bible readings, communions after communions unpartaken of. *All the conditions laid down to ensure an abundant entrance into glory have been utterly disregarded, treated as if they meant nothing, as if they were written only to fill up the*

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