

Christ, and resign yourself to the conviction that your salvation is an utter impossibility—that you are *not*, and never will be, saved! But to take a closer view of the matter. Upon what ground do you base this hesitation and justify this self-exemption from the great salvation? It is not for your worth that you are saved, but for Christ's worth. It is not on the ground of your personal merit that you are justified, but on the ground of Christ's merit alone. It is not upon the plea of your fitness, your tears, your confessions, your prayers, your duties, that God forgives and accepts you, but simply and exclusively upon the one plea of the Saviour's sacrifice. The BLOOD of Christ *pardons*, the RIGHTEOUSNESS of Christ *justifies* you, and this is all that you require, or that God demands. The great work is all *done*—it is not to *be* done. It is complete, finished, accepted, sealed. And you, as a lost sinner, without holiness, without strength, without one plea that springs from what you are, have nothing to *do*. *Believe*, and you are *saved*. Believing is not *doing*, it is not *meriting*, it is *TRUSTING*—it is the simple exercise of a faith in Christ which God gives, and which the Holy Ghost produces in the heart; so that your salvation, from beginning to end, is entirely out of yourself, in another. With what clearness and emphasis has the Spirit of truth set forth this: "*By the works of the law shall no flesh be justified,*" (Gal. ii. 16.) "*But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness,*" (Rom. iv. 5.) All your own works, until your faith embrace the Lord Jesus, are "*dead works,*" and dead works never took a soul to heaven! You need as much the ATONING BLOOD to purge you from *dead works* as to purge you from *deadly sins*. Here the words of the Holy Ghost—"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit

offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from DEAD WORKS to serve the living God?" (Heb. ix. 14.) And still you ask, "What then must I do to be saved?" *Do!* I answer—NOTHING! All is done, completely and for ever done! Blessed, O thrice blessed be God! Christ has done it all—paid it all—endured it all—suffered it all—finished it all—leaving you, O sin-burdened, anxious, trembling, hesitating soul, *nothing* to do, and only to *believe*. Will not this suffice? Will you demur a moment longer to commit yourself to Christ, to lay your soul on Jesus, to accept the salvatic, the heaven, the crown, the eternal life He proffers you as the free bestowments of His grace? Your sins, countless as the stars, are no barrier to your salvation if you but believe in Jesus. Your transgressions, deep as scarlet and as crimson, shall not be of too deep a dye if you, but plunge into the fountain of Christ's blood. His delight, His glory is to receive sinners—to receive *you*. And the moment you cease to give over *doing*, and begin only to *believe*, from that moment your soul rests from its labour, you enter into peace, and are for ever saved!

"Nothing, either great or small,
Nothing, sinner, no;
Jesus did it, did it *all*,
Long, long ago.

"When *He* from His lofty throne
Stoop'd to do and die,
Everything was fully done;
Hearken to *His* cry—

"'T IS FINISH'D!' Yes, indeed,
Finish'd every jot.
Sinner, this is all you need;
Tell me, is it not?

"Weary, working, burden'd one,
Why toil you so?
Cease *your* doing; all was done
Long, long ago.

"Till to JESUS' WORK you cling
By a simple faith,