

The butcher did not like giving up the lamb at all at first, but the gentleman insisted upon his doing so: and paying him out of his own purse, told the children to take charge of the lamb.

How glad those children were then, how they hugged poor Snowy, who had been in so much danger, and thanked the gentleman for his kindness! Now this was redemption: poor Snowy could not save herself, and the children, dearly as they loved her, could not save her, for they had not money enough to pay the price. But the gentleman paid the money, and redeemed the little lamb from death, and the children from the sorrow of losing her.

My child, you, too, are eternally lost, and in danger of perishing eternally if you do not love Jesus, as much as this little lamb was in danger of being killed; and if Jesus had not pitied us and redeemed us, we must all have perished. The apostle says we were "sold under sin," as this little lamb had been sold to the butcher by the wicked man who stole it; but Christ had compassion on us, and paid the price of our redemption, not with silver or gold, but with His own precious blood.

Love to God.

John v: 41—42—But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you.

Reader, a few plain words. The Bible says the carnal heart is enmity against God; and do you think you love God? Why do you think so? Do you think you love him because he is so good to you, or because he is so kind to you that you cannot help loving him? But such love is all selfish. It is not true evangelical love. It is not love to God, but love to his favors. It is loving God for the sake of the loaves and fishes, just as many followed Jesus. Such love has no relation to Christ. It is without faith. It is therefore an abomination to God! Remember God is just as well as merciful and good. He will by no means clear the guilty. He is a being of perfect rectitude, perfect justice, perfect holiness and purity. He abhors evil and will punish it. He cannot look upon sin with allowance. He is angry with the wicked every day. Without holiness no man shall see the Lord. Without holiness there can be no love. Being unrenewed, you have not holiness. Therefore you have no love. God knows and you know, that you have not the love of God in you.

Consider! We like to think of those whom we love; do you like to think of God? We delight in the society of those whom we love; do you delight in communion with God? We endeavor to please those whom we love; do you ask to please God? We are careful not to offend those

whom we love; are you careful not to offend God? We are interested in those things which interest the objects of our affection; are you interested in what God delights? We love the friends of those whom we love; do you love the friends of God? God has claims; do you like to have these claims urged upon you? You have broken God's law; are you sorry for it? Have you any regard for God's honor and glory? When are you without love to Him! And you are not fit for heaven! You must be born again! You must believe in Jesus Christ or perish! He is your only hope. Reject him, and you are lost! Pause and think! Seek ye the Lord while he may be found; call ye upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God for he will abundantly pardon. He that, being often reproved, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

The Fretting Believer.

A fretting believer is a daily dishonor to God and his service. He proclaims to the world that Christ's yoke is a hard one and his burden heavy. Be sure the world will take note of it, and set it down to the discredit of religion. "See how unhappy it makes a person," will be their conclusion.

We cannot have the excuse for it, that it lightens a single burden of care. It rather binds a heavier one, and lays it on our shoulders day by day. It embitters the happiest life, and sips poison from the very flowers, where others find only crystal honey.

Go, Christian, take for your pattern your beloved Master, who endured all his fearful suffering without one repining word. Like a gentle lamb brought to the slaughter, "so he opened not his mouth." If he bore such a heavy cross for us, can we not take up every day the little ones he has appointed for us? Not the smallest of them all but is ordered by him. Only realize this, and it will be a powerful check to murmuring over it. And remember, it is those only who bear the cross, who will ever wear the crown.

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