

though we had perished for ever. Whatever you may think of it, I know the blessed angels, who are not so much concerned in this mystery of godliness as we, think most highly of it. They do, they will desire to look into and admire it through all eternity. Why, Oh why, ye sinners, will you not think of this love of Christ? surely it must melt down the most hardened heart. Whilst I am speaking, the thoughts of this infinitely condescending love fires and warms my soul! I could dwell on it for ever. But it is expedient for you that I should ask you another question concerning Jesus Christ.

*3dly.*—What think you of being justified by Jesus Christ? I believe I can answer for some of you; but many, I fear, think to be justified, or looked upon as righteous in God's sight, without Jesus Christ. All such will find themselves most dreadfully mistaken; for out of Christ, God is a consuming fire! Others satisfy themselves with thinking that Christ was God and man, and that he came into the world to save sinners in general: Whereas their chief thoughts ought to be how they may be assured that Jesus Christ came into the world to save them in particular. The life I now live in the flesh says the apostle, is by faith of the Son of God, who loved ME, and gave himself for ME; observe for ME! For it is this immediate application of Jesus Christ to our own hearts, that renders his merits effectual to our eternal salvation. If Christ be not truly Emmanuel, or God with us, he cannot be the author and finisher of our faith and salvation. Others there are who go still further; for they think that Jesus Christ is God-man, and that he is to be received into their hearts, and that they can be justified in God's sight only in and through him; but then they believe in him only as in part their Saviour. They are for doing what they can themselves, and then they will accept of Jesus Christ to make up the deficiencies of their righteousness.—This is the sum and substance of our modern divinity. And, was it possible for me to know the thoughts of most that hear me this day, I believe they would tell me this is the foundation they have laid, and built upon.