

A FREE GOSPEL.

“ JESUS Christ the righteous ” is the propitiation for the believer’s sins ; but also, for the whole world—not for “ *the sins of* ” the world. The italics in I John ii 2, should not be there—they destroy the sense. Death of the sinner before pardon involves the eternal wrath of God. In the propitiatory sacrifice of Christ, all the claims of God’s nature were fully met ; and a righteous basis laid, upon which the gospel could be freely preached to “ every creature.” “ He died for all.” (II Cor. v. 15), and it is available for all, that God’s righteousness which is by faith of Jesus Christ might be towards all and upon all them that believe : for there is no difference ; for all have sinned, and come short of His glory. (Rom. iii. 22-26). Grace meets the sinner whoever he may be upon this ground ; and God is just in justifying the believer in Jesus whom He hath set forth a propitiation through faith in His blood. When the sinner becomes a believer he learns the further glad tidings, that “ He is the propitiation for our sins.” See also Heb. ii. 17 ; I John iv. 10.

The one is world-wide as the righteous basis of the gospel : the other is limited to the believer in Him whom God raised from the dead, “ and gave Him glory ” at His own right hand—He having satisfied God ; yea, glorified Him, on the cross. (See I Peter i. 21). In the one case, whosoever will may come,