

I die in peace," And from this time the light fell in upon his soul ; the dying woman had answered his miserable cry—" O wretched man that I am ! "

Let the reader observe that both these instances of long and bitter distress of soul were greatly owing to false teaching. No doubt, God overrules it, and, through all the distress, gives souls to learn experimentally that in them, that is in their flesh, dwells no good thing ; and thus they become more thoroughly settled in the grace of God in Christ, rest more simply on His written word, and consequently have great peace. Still, such distress is not necessary, nor could it be known if God's word were listened to instead of the opinions of men. Surely, it may still be said of many, " Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition." (Mark vii 9). Happy indeed are those who have so heard the voice of the Lord Jesus, the Saviour of sinners, as to have turned to Him, and received Him as their only way of peace, and thus know what it is to be reconciled to God by the death of His Son. Such are " in Christ Jesus," and can triumphantly exclaim—

" He raised me from the depths of sin,
The gates of gaping hell ;
And fixed my standing more secure
Than 'twas before I fell.

" Satan may vent his sharpest spite,
And all his legions roar ;
Almighty mercy guards my life,
And bounds his raging power."