

say it—a *harlot!* will Jesus receive such? Will the Son of God let her *touch* Him? Will not that Holy One retire from the presence of such a polluted one? Ah! He *came* to meet her: He was there to receive her, and to assure her of His grace.

He came, *not to call the righteous*, but sinners; and sinners He called *because He loved them*. And, blessed be His name, *He loves such still*. He has a place in His heart for such. O, what a large place! And more, He lets them know it. He *calls* them to His bosom. He lets them know that if others reject them, He receives sinners—that He plucks *brands* from the burning. He takes away their filthy garments, and clothes them with change of raiment. And what is more, He makes them His friends. There was the interchange of divine affection between Jesus and this woman of the city. *He accepted her love*. O wondrous grace! and this tie is an eternal one; for He saves us for eternal glory with Himself. Blessed and adorable Saviour!

Jesus, Thine everlasting grace  
Our scanty thought surpasses far,  
Thy heart still meets with tenderness—  
Thine arms of love still open are,  
Repenting sinners to receive.  
That MERCY they may taste and live.

“Whosoever will let him take the water of life freely.”

God in tenderest love bids you now, this moment believe and be saved.