

## THE RANSOM FOUND.

We read about the ransom found in the book of Job. In the thirty-third chapter and the twenty-fourth verse it is said, "Then he is gracious unto him, and saith. Deliver him from going down to the pit: *I have found a ransom.*"

Great truths are frequently conveyed to our minds in single words, and in short sentences. For instance, gravitation, infinity, eternity, immortality, are examples of the one; and "God is a spirit," "God is light," "God is love," "It is finished," are examples of the other. Words are but symbols of thought; they are the bodily forms, of which thoughts are the spiritual realities; they are the flesh and bones, so to speak, of ideas. Invisible truths need to be clothed in language that our mind may perceive and understand them. Some truths are far more interesting and important than others. There are many truths even in the Bible of comparatively little importance to us, because our spiritual and eternal interests are not affected either by our knowledge of them on the one hand, or our ignorance of them on the other. But there are truths revealed in the Bible which it is necessary we should understand and believe. It is indispensable that we should know our duty to our Creator and our fellow-men. It is necessary that we should know what sin is,—what we are,—what we deserve,—what God is,—and what he has done for us, in order that we may be saved, sanctified, and ultimately glorified.

Dear reader, *the ransom found* is a subject in which you are interested; or at least a subject in which you ought to be deeply, and personally interested. Your weal or woe depends upon the attention which you give to religion. All the great truths revealed in the Bible are made known for your instruction, for your individual benefit. The Holy Scriptures are able to make you wise unto salvation, because God loves you and wishes you to understand his moral character, to believe the gospel, to feel its power, and enjoy the peace and pardon which it brings.

Before however speaking to you about the ransom which has been found, we wish you for a few moments to ponder over, and seriously consider *your own revolt and ruin*.

You know that you have not kept the holy law of God. You know that you have not loved him with all your heart, and soul, and strength, and mind. You have become a transgressor, a sin-