

tical as to think that man made himself. No, it was God that made us, and not we ourselves. And I would willingly think that no one would be so blasphemous as to suppose, that if God did make us, he made us such creatures as we now find ourselves to be; for this would be giving God's word the lie, which tells us, that in the image of God, not in the image of the devil, which we now bear on our souls, made he man. Far be it from us to think otherways, than that as God made man, so he made him perfect. He placed him in the garden of Eden, and condescended to enter into covenant with him, promising him eternal life upon conditions of an unsinning obedience of faith, and threatening eternal death, if he broke his law of love, by eating the forbidden fruit.

Man did eat, and thereby involved both himself and us in that curse, which God the righteous judge had declared the consequence of his disobedience. But here begins that mystery of godliness, God manifested in the flesh, to destroy the works of the devil? For, sing, O heavens, and rejoice O earth! Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, light of light, very God of very God, offers to die to make an atonement for his transgression, and to fulfil all righteousness in his stead. But because it was impossible for him to do and suffer this as he was God, and since man had offended, it was necessary it should be done by man, rather than we should perish. This everlasting God, this Prince of Peace, this ancient of days, in the fulness of time, had a body prepared for him, and became an infant of a span long. In this body he performed a complete obedience to the law of God, whereby he, in our stead, fulfilled the covenant of works, and at last became subject to death, even the death upon the cross; that as God he might satisfy, and as man he might obey and suffer. and being God and man in one person, might thereby procure an union between God and his fallen creatures.

And now what think ye of this love of Christ? Do not you think it was wondrous great, especially when you consider that we were Christ's bitter enemies, and that he would have been infinitely happy in himself,