

may regard them as dead works—you can never, by any good deeds, wipe away the stains of your sins. The holes remain in spite of all you can do. The guilt stands there to condemn you, as having broken the law of God.

Your sins, then, are all naked, and open before God, and as He sees them all, and as they will bring you to eternal death if they are not taken away, it is of the greatest consequence for you to know how they are to be removed. What are you told about this in the Word of God? What is it that takes away guilt, and purges the conscience? There is only one thing. The prophet Micah asks, “Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my first-born for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” No, nothing but the one sacrifice of atonement will God accept as efficacious, to purge away guilt. This is the testimony of Scripture. “The blood of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, cleanseth us from all sin.” It is the fountain opened up for sin and for uncleanness.