

the preaching of that word, William felt the force of divine truth; and was awakened to a sense of his sin and danger. But in the hour of "tribulation" and "persecution," he was "offended."—Instead of seeking strength from above, by which he would have been enabled effectually to stand in the evil day,—instead of trusting in the merits of the Redeemer, as the only efficient means of healing his wounded spirit,—he fled from the presence of God, and assayed to drown his sorrows in the cup of intoxication!

2. With respect to the conduct of his father, I need not say a word. I leave the reader to make his own comment. "*Nulla discordia major quam quæ a religione fit.*" The melancholy result of his deeply-rooted prejudice, as witnessed in the lamentable state of his only son, and which was obviously accelerated by his proud and turbulent spirit must be greatly deplored by all heads of families whose judgments have not been warped by a selfish, narrow-minded bigotry.

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USELESS KINDS OF RELIGION.

Reader, there are two ways by which a man may loose his own soul. What are they?

He may loose his soul by living and dying without any *religion at all*. He may live and die like a beast, prayerless, Godless, raceless, faithless. This is a sure way to hell. Mind that you do not walk in it.

He may loose his soul by taking up some useless *kind of religion*. He may live and die contenting himself with false christianity, and resting on a baseless hope. This is the commonest way to hell there is.

Reader, what do you mean by useless kinds of religion? Listen and I will tell you.

The first thing I wish to say is this. A religion is entirely useless *in which Jesus Christ is not the principal object*, and does not fill the principal place.

There are only two many baptized men and women who practically know nothing about Christ. Their religion consists in a few vague notions and empty expressions. "They trust they are no worse than others. They keep to their Church. They try to do their duty. They do nobody any harm. They hope God will be merciful to them. They trust the Almighty will pardon their sins, and take them to heaven when they die." This is about the whole of their religion.