

"In this solemn question we have now appealed, not to uninspired men but to St. Paul. We have inquired of the Holy Ghost. We have heard the testimony of God. Thence we may conclude as follows: If the *mystery of iniquity* is the same thing as the *mystery of godliness*; if the man of sin is a man of God; if *deceivableness of unrighteousness* is the same thing as godly sincerity; if *strong delusion* is the same thing as sound persuasion; if *to believe a lie* is the same thing as to hold the truth; if to be in peril of condemnation is the same thing as to be saved; if to be consumed with the Spirit of Christ's Mouth is the same thing as to hear from Christ's lips the joyful words: Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you;—then, Romanism is a safe religion; then it is not sinful to encourage it; then it is a matter of little moment whether you belong to the Church of England, or fall away to the Church of Rome;—*but not otherwise.*"

WHAT IT IS TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST.

It is to believe that He is the only Saviour; that there is no salvation in any other; no other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved, Acts XVIII. 12.

It is to *feel your need of Him*; that you are guilty, and need forgiveness; sinful, and need to be made holy; under condemnation, and need to be pardoned; lost, and need to be saved.

It is to believe that He is *able and willing to save you, and to save you now*. He is *able*; "almighty"—"able to save to the uttermost them that come unto God by Him," Heb. VII. 25; *willing*; "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance," 2 Peter III. 9; ready to save you *now*; for *now* is the accepted time, and *now* is the day of salvation, 2 Cor. VI. 2.

It is to cast yourself *at once, and without reserve, on His mercy, trusting in Him alone for salvation*, renouncing self-righteousness and self-dependence, all idea of meriting salvation by any thing you can do, and relying on what Christ has done; to give yourself up to Him, just as you are, to be accepted, forgiven, purified, directed, and saved; to take Him for your Prophet to teach, your Priest to atone, your King to rule over you and in you, and your Exemplar to be imitated in all your feelings, purposes, and conduct. Do this, and you will be a believer in Christ; and He shall be your refuge, your portion, your saviour, all your salvation, and all your desire.

Prostrate I'll lie before the throne,
And there my guilt confess;
I'll tell Him I'm a wretch undone,
Without His sovereign grace.

I can but perish if I go;
I am resolved to try;
For if I stay away, I know
I must forever die.

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