

to obtain—and we are to do so “with fear and trembling,” lest we should dishonor our Lord, and LOSE the recompense of the reward.

This idea is well expressed by the Church of England in her Xth Article: “Wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing (going before) us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.”

No, dear reader, there is nothing you can DO, but as LOST and HELPLESS, listen to the words of Christ.

Thirdly: *Our Lord's words teach the vital NECESSITY of the new birth.*

Whatever opinions we may hold about the new birth, there is *one* point on which all must be agreed, and that is, ITS VITAL NECESSITY. Our Lord does not say: Except a man be born again, it will be ages of time before he enters the kingdom of God; nor, Except a man be born again, he will never enjoy the *same* degree of glory as one who has; nor, Except a man be born again