

What will become of the Wicked ?

MEN AND BRETHREN :—

This is a very solemn question, and it ought to be discussed with great seriousness and earnest desire to know the truth. We may be mistaken on some points and suffer little or no harm ; but a mistake here may have terrible consequences. It may ruin us forever. Give me, therefore, your serious attention.

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Brethren—No one but God himself can answer this question, for he only knows. He *has* answered it. We find his answer in the Bible. He tells us there, that if sinners repent of their wickedness and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ they will be saved. They will then be no longer wicked. The believing sinner becomes a saint, lives a holy life, and is trained for heaven.

But if they live and die in their sins—*what then ?*—what will become of them ? I say again that this is a very serious inquiry, and that we should engage in it with prayerful solemnity. May the Lord direct us aright !

Let me remark in the outset that the reply to the question before us must be derived mainly from the New Testament, for the revelations of truth given in the New Testament are God's last announcements to man. They contain all that can be known on the point now to be considered. The whole matter is " brought to light," and no further development is to be expected. I hold it preferable, therefore, in pursuing the investigation on which we have now entered, to appeal for the most part to the authority of the New Testament. Illustrations may be gathered from other