

YE WILL NOT COME TO ME, THAT YE MIGHT HAVE LIFE.

despised Jesus. Possibly you never thought you were putting yourselves amongst such, or yet in the same class of whom He said, "Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."

These are not mere words, they are not thoughts spoken to have you one and all for *appearance* sake approach the Communion Table. They are the statements of the facts to be found in the Scriptures.

From the very beginning, God has demanded on the part of man outward acts, by which to give evidence of belief in Him.

In patriarchial times, they consisted of circumcision and sacrifice; in the Mosaic economy, of circumcision, sacrifice, and offerings of different kinds; in the Christian dispensation, that in which we live, they consist of two—BAPTISM and THE LORD'S SUPPER. He then, who would be accounted a true follower of the Lord Jesus, cannot despise either of these ordinances. To do so, is to disobey God; is, in fact, to act independently of Him, and is to try to discover a road to eternal happiness, altogether different to that marked out by the hand of inspiration as the ONLY right, safe and proper one.

Now as the Jews, who fulfilled the requirements of the law, enjoyed certain privileges, and were assured of God's protection, so all who endeavour to carry out Christ's injunctions—the partaking of the Holy Communion amongst others—are guaranteed peculiar and special blessings.

The most important of all the promises attached to the duties devolving upon Christians, are those connected with the Lord's Supper, and paramount is the gift of eternal life. Eternal life is that which belongs essentially to Christ, and which can be imparted to us only after sincere confession of our sins and hearty repentance, by partaking in faith of those elements which represent His body and His blood. "Except, said Jesus, ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His blood ye have no life in you."

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