

inspiration teaches that a spirit which has refused in this world the infinite drawings of Divine love, will be accompanied by a "worm" of regret which "will never die," in the world to come. And is there not something due to God? If you have allowed idiots to teach you that it is manly to sneer at prayer to God—if you deliberately choose darkness instead of light, what wrong is done you if you are left in the "outer darkness," whatever that may be? If a flowering plant should say, "I will not have what heaven's influences can do for me," it would be rightcously excluded, in its hideous deformity, from the monarch's banqueting hall. Ah, that plant *must* comply. A plant's life lies in involuntary obedience. *Your life lies in will.* The sublime lesson of your life is to make a *right choice* between good and evil. Christ calls men "*lost*." That word "lost" seems to cover the future destiny of a soul. But Christ strives with you for your recovery. His garments have been dyed in blood for your salvation. He bows himself to you as one who is knocking, and persistently waiting, at the door of your heart. Oh, for the sake of what is holiest, dearest, infinite, do not resist His pleadings! On this, the starting-point of your manhood, you are in your own power. God appeals to you and says, "I set before you life and death." The end of life now seems far off.