

am afraid it is too late, sir." He went into the room, touched the child's wrist, shook his head, and said in a whisper, "I can do nothing; it is too late."

Can you wonder that during the day, and for many a day after, those words, "Too late," seemed to be ever ringing in my ears, and that many solemn thoughts filled my mind?

Reader, how is it with your soul? It is bad to be "too late" in earthly matters; many a man has thus been ruined as far as worldly things go. It is possible to be "too late" in reference to your soul. Look in the 25th chapter of Matthew, and read this: "They that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not." It was too late.

For you, reader, it is not too late yet. Still the voice of mercy sounds in your ear, still Christ as the Saviour of lost sinners is preached to you; still the calls to repent and believe the gospel are addressed to you; still the precious promises of God's word are before you: still God waits to be gracious. But what if you should be surprised in the midst of your indifference by death? May God's Spirit lay the commandment of the new testament on your heart which says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

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