

“WHY WILL YE DIE?”

SINNER! The living God addresses you thus. In the earnestness and tenderness of His heart, He asks you, —“*why will ye die?*” It is written,—“The soul that sinneth, IT SHALL DIE.” “The wages of sin is death. “By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” Death, then, everlasting death, has thus become the certain lot of every son of Adam.

But behold the wondrous display of God’s love in Christ Jesus, the Lord. The eternal Son of God left the bosom of His almighty Father, and came into this place of death; here took part with us of flesh and blood, “*that HE by the grace of God should taste death FOR every man*” and that “through (His) death, He might destroy him that had the power of death; that is, the devil.” “When we were yet without strength, . . . CHRIST *died FOR the ungodly.*” “God commendeth His love towards us, in that, while we were *yet sinners, CHRIST died FOR us.*” “Hereby perceive we the Love, because HE *laid down His life FOR us.*”

But “this Jesus hath God raised up.” “He whom God raised again, saw no corruption.” Having taken again the life He laid down, God hath set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: and hath put all things under his feet. “Be it known unto you therefore, . . . that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins; and by him all that believe are justified from all things.” For “He was delivered for OUR offences and raised again for OUR justification.”

The Lord Jesus Christ having thus “abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light,” gives full, free, immediate, and everlasting deliverance from all condemnation and death to those who believe in His name.

Then, “*why will ye die*” fellow-sinner? What more can infinite love do for you than what has been done? Christ has died, that you may live. He tasted the utmost bitterness of the most shameful death, and “the pains of hell gat hold” on Him, that death and hell might for ever lose all claim upon you; and that knowing this, you may triumphantly exclaim,—“Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

“*Why will ye die?*” He that “was dead,” “is alive for evermore” at the right hand of God, to give eternal life to all that believe; for the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Life, eternal life is what you want. Death you have already; and the second death you will soon have for ever. But “*why will ye die?*” Has not God done enough in your behalf? He parted with Him who was the object of all His delight; He “spared not His own Son,” but “laid on Him the iniquity of us all;” He poured on Him all His “fierce wrath” as our sin-bearer; and now, having raised Him from the dead, offers eternal life “without money and without price,” to the guiltiest creature in the wide world. Is not this enough? Then “*why will ye die?*”

If you perish, dear sinner; if you have to bear for ever in your own person the horrors of the second death, know this, that the cause of it all is expressed in the words of the Lord Jesus—“YE WILL NOT *come to me that ye may have life.*”

But “WHY—WHY *will ye die?*”