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The Great Exhibition Tracts.

(No. 3.)

HAVE YOU TAKEN SPACE ?

As the day for opening drew near, this was an important question to all who wished to have a place in the world's great show. If space be not taken before the appointed day, it will be too late for the anxious manufacturer to have a place in the world's great Exhibition to show his wares. And if your space is not secured in the heavenly mansions above, is there not an appointed hour when it will be too late? On what ground can you, my reader, have the certainty that a place is prepared for *you* in that city whose builder and maker is God? As the officers marked out the space of each exhibitor, and wrote his name, I thought what a wondrous mercy that my name should be written in heaven!

Is space taken for *you* there, my reader? Can you rejoice that your name is written in heaven? It will not do to say I have fasted and prayed—or I have done penance, or repented. The word of God nowhere tells us that these are the price of a place in the city of pure gold—the holy Jerusalem descending out of heaven from God. It is quite true that those who have a space in the Great Exhibition on earth cannot polish their goods too brightly; but polishing their goods will not buy a space. So with those *who have a place* in the heavenly mansion—they cannot be too careful to maintain good works. Yea, the brighter those works, the greater the

sins, from the moment of thy birth to the moment thou shalt depart to take thy happy blood-bought space above—this precious blood cleanses from all sin, not only secures thy place, but fits thee for it—yea, He who died for thy sins has risen from the dead, and has gone to prepare thy blood-bought space—He now holds possession of the happy space reserved for them who are kept by the power of God. Who would think that so many of the poor of this world, who may be pining in garrets or cellars, have such scenes of heavenly glory before them?

But, have you?—have you, my reader, space taken for you on high? Can the paltry vanities of this passing scene make up for the loss of a place on high? Have you tried for years to take up space by anything you can bring to God?—your doings, or your feelings? You know that all these are mixed with sin. Are you saying “I am trusting to the mercy of God, and doing my best.” You know you have not done your best. Have you not done the things you hate? Does not your own conscience condemn you? and has God not said, “Without shedding of blood there is *no* remission.” Are you still rejecting pardon and peace, through the blood of Jesus? Are you despising the cross of Christ, and expect that God will show mercy to you on any other ground? Oh, remember! there is but one price that has taken space in the heavenly place for the lost sinner—**IT IS THE BLOOD OF CHRIST!**

C. S.

Price One Shilling per 100, (in English or French).

London: WITHERBY & Co., 10, Great Turnstile, Holborn.

Half-price, for gratuitous distribution, at Gospel Tract Depot,
7, Carver Street, Sheffield.