

## Concerning Eternal Security

And though I was thus troubled and tossed and afflicted with the sight and sense of terror of my own wickedness, yet I was afraid to let this sight and sense go quite off my mind. For I found that unless guilt of conscience was taken off the right way, that, by the blood of Christ, a man grew rather worse for the loss of his trouble of mind, than better...Lord, let it not go off my heart but the right way, but by the blood of Christ, and by the application of Thy mercy through Him to my soul; for that the Scripture lay much upon me: "Without shedding of blood there is no remission" (Heb. 9:22)...

I conceived a falling from and an absolute denial of the gospel of remission of sins by Christ, for from them the apostle begins his argument (Heb. 6:1-3). Secondly, I found that this falling away must be openly, even in the view of the world, even so as to put Christ to an open shame. Thirdly, I found that those He there intended were forever shut up of God both in blindness, hardness, and impenitency: It is impossible they should be renewed again unto repentance. By all these particulars, I found, to God's everlasting praise, my sin was no the sin in this place intended.

First, I confessed I was fallen, but not fallen away – that is from the profession of faith in Jesus unto eternal life.

Secondly, I confessed that I had put Jesus Christ to shame by my sin, but not to open shame. I did not deny Him before men nor condemn Him as a fruitless one before the world.

Thirdly, nor did I find that God had shut me up or denied me to come, though I found it hard work indeed to come to Him by sorrow and repentance. Blessed be God for unsearchable grace.

## **Concerning Christ's Blood – Our Only Plea**

There is, in some kind, a harmony between His being a sacrifice, a priest, and an advocate. As a sacrifice, our sins were laid upon Him (Isa. 53). As a priest, He bears them (Ex. 28:38). And as an advocate, He acknowledges them to be His own (Ps. 69:5). Now, having acknowledged them to be His own, the quarrel is no more between us and Satan, for the Lord Jesus has espoused our quarrel and made it His. All then that we in this matter have to do is to stand at the bar by faith among the angels and see how the business goes. O blessed God! What a lover of mankind art Thou! And how gracious is our Lord Jesus in His thus managing our matters for us.

Christ pleads the value and virtue of the price of His blood and sacrifice for us...Therefore, I say, He is concerned with us; His credit, His honor, His glory, and renown lie all away, if those for whom He pleads as an advocate perish for want of worth in His sacrifice pleaded. But will this ever be said of Christ? Or will it be found that any for whom Christ as advocate pleads yet perish for want of worth in the price or of neglect in the advocate to plead it? No, no; He Himself is concerned, as to His own reputation and honor and as to the value and virtue of His blood, not will He lose these for want of pleading for them concerned in this office.