

understands it is the Lord Jesus Christ, because He is the One who applies it so directly and definitely to the punishment of the sinner in eternity. "And if thh eye offend thee pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than havin^r two eyes to be cast into hell fire where their worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched". It is not the act but it is the attitude and all sin must be punished in the sight of God in the misery of eternal death, for there is nothing else that would be just in God's sight. Thank God that these are not all the facets of the verse.

We have been looking at one side of the verse--the dark side of the verse. Thank God there is another side to the verse. The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life. Thank God for the expression, "The gift of God" and not the wages of righteousness is eternal life. The ~~wage~~ wages of sin is death and the wages of righteousness is eternal life--where would any of us be if that were the case? If you foygot everything before today, where would any of us be? if it were the wages of righteousness that our lives depended upon for eternal life? Everyone of us today has the result of the sin upon us and it shows in the outward acts and the expressions and attitude which we portray. The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life--Thank God that it is a gift. Thank God that is something that we can use as a free gift of God. Thank God that it is something which He freely offers us through Jesus Christ our Lord. God is not an arbitrary Judge who says to this person, "You are wicked and must have punishment", but to another "We will let you go--you are free"--The Bible teaches so clearly that God must punish sin but God causes the sin to fall upon the head of the Lord Jesus Christ--of all those that believe upon Him. How wonderful that Jesus Christ, who knew no sin would be willing to come down here and be willing to die on the corss for the sake of us who deserve nothing but eternal death and eternal hell. How wonderful that Jesus Christ whould do this; should perform this mighty act for us who deserve it not; that He should make it possible that we should be saved. The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. How much He did for us upon the cross and how much we owe to Him for giving us an escape to that which we have earned! The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord and yet as we turn this over we could look at many facets on this other side but as we turn it over we come back to the one which we started on and it is vital that we look to this one again--The Freedom of Man.