

You must know not merely that He died for the sins of the world, but that He died for your sins. You must know that you have been cleansed through Him, or it is of no value for you.

I heard of a book, not long ago, written about redemption, which gives a wonderful picture of the plan of salvation, going into it in very technical, theological terms and discussing all the details, and going into it in such a way that some people would turn away from it thinking it was too technical, and others would become all wrapped up in the interest of the technical, theological discussion. And the writer of the book feared that the latter might be the result of <sup>his</sup> the book, and so he made a very strong statement at the end of the book. He said, I don't remember the exact words but it is something like this, that no one is saved because he falls in love with God's plan of salvation. Nobody is saved because he understands the wonders of the details of theology. James said, Thou believest in one God; thou doest well: the ~~inventions~~ <sup>demons</sup> believe and tremble. We can know all the details of theology and it is wonderful that we should learn many of them; they can be useful in serving God, but no one is saved for knowing these, nor does ~~anybody~~ <sup>does</sup> anybody serve God effectively simply for knowing them. We must love, not the plan of salvation, but the Lord Jesus Christ who gave himself for our sins. The live coal from off the altar must be specifically applied to us and we must be cleansed with it. And this is a once for all thing. We are purged from our sins; we are justified once and for all, and yet it is something that is continued every day. We are purged from our sins and cleansed forever in God's sight, but every day the seraph must come with the tong from off the altar and apply the coal to your lips and cleanse you anew from the errors and wickednesses into which you have fallen that day. "Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged." Has it touched your lips originally? Have you been saved through the death of Christ? Have you believed on Him? Are you justified in God's sight? Praise God <sup>if you are.</sup> If you are, you are a child of His. But if your life is worthwhile, you must every day be touched anew, not for justification but for sanctification, for cleansing, for preparation for service. Have you today had your lips touched with the live coal from off the altar? Has the death of Christ been applied to you again today? Has your sin been purged out, that you may be made fit to serve Him effectively? Oh, may God give us each one to have this vision and to keep it, and to carry it day by day that our lives may accomplish for Christ.

And then Isaiah had a fourth vision. He had a vision of cleansing. And you know, if you don't have the fourth vision, I tend to question whether you have had the third vision. I don't think that it is possible for one to be saved through the Lord Jesus Christ, to be cleansed from his sin, and then to forget everything else and just rejoice in it, and that is all. If a man has been saved from his sin through Christ, he will