His friend said that he would do it. But before undertaking it he of course made a thorough study of the character and life of Jesus in all the sources available. As he studied it he came to the inevitable conclusion that this was no mere man but the incarnate Son of God. And General Lew Wallace wrote his book Ben Hur from that viewpoint. Jesus was the Lamb of God. After proving that He was pure and without blemish, he poured out His life blood to make atonement before God for the sins of mankind.

"Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain,
Could give the guilty conscience peace,

Or wash away the stain" .

How does it fit man to appear before God? Many phases of this we can explain, but to understand it in its entirety is beyond our human grasp. The greatest forces in the world and innature are mysteries. No man can explain it in its entirety just how the blood of Christ cleanses man. But of the fact there can be no possible doubt. All through the ages, instance for instance testifies to its reality.

Every man who has ever lived a life that was really the sort of life that God wants man to live — every man that ever has really been fit to enter into eternal life, has become so because he was washed in the blood of the Lamb.

(An illustration ?)