

haere mai hei reria ka titiro mai nga tangata katoa kia kite ai i te Kingi me tona kaha me tona atahua. Ka miaro nga tangata katoa ki taua ra, ina, ka kito ratou te Naharene i whakarerea e ratou: ko ia te mea tino miaro o te rangi me te whenua tae noa ki te reinga; oira, au au! tera ano etahi e miaro ana, a, ka ngaro.

E te kai-korero! ka pehea koe? Kia mahara koe. kua puake te kupu a te Atua. "Kua puta atu te kupu i toku mangai i runga i te tika, e kore ano e hoki mai, ara, ka tuturi nga tui katoa kiau."—*Ihala* 45.23—Ano te mea nui, te mea taimaha mo te hungai whakarere atu ana i a ia!

E taku hoa korero, mau ra e titiro atu ki a Ihu; me whakapono hoki ki a Ihu, tangohia i a Ihu; me whakapono hoki hi a Ihu i tenei ra o te aroha noa hei reira kos ka whiwhi ai nga mea katoa e homai noa mai e te Atua.

HE TARO MAKI KI TE MATA O NGA WAI.

NA WAI TE HE?

KIA whakaarohia e tatou tetahi kaipuke e totohu ana ki te moana. E mohio ana tatou he kaipuke pirau, a e puta tonu mai ana te wai i nga pakaru—meake ka paremo. Kua oho nga tangata o uta; kei te to i te poti nui ki te moana hei whakaora i nga tangata o te kaipuke. Katahi ka hoia atu ki taua kaipuke pakaru. Ka karanga atu te rangatira o te poti ki ana tangata kia whakarerea e ratou te kaipuke, kia eke katoa mai ki runga ai tona poti, kia kawea oratia ai ratou ki uta. Meahe e kore rawa ratou e rongu. Ka ki tetahi. "Kahore ano i kino rawa te kaipuke; me pani ki te peita,"—me aha ranei. Ka mea tetahi, "Hoki atu koe me tou poti! he kamura ano to matou, mana he whakaora i te kaipuke; ki tou mohio ka whakarerea ranei matou te kaipuke nui nei, kia ora ai matou i tou poti? E kore. Heoi ano ki ana te kaipukei te wai, totohu ana. Tena whakaaturia mai, mehema ka uate katoa ana tangata pouaau, *na wai te he?* Na ratou ano. *I te atu te poti whakaoranga, whakakohoretia ana e ratou.*

we have a carpenter of our own, whose business it is to mend the old ship. Who do you think is going to leave this fine old ship and trust to that poor-looking boat?" The vessel fills and sinks. And now tell me, if every fool-hardy despiser on board goes down, *who is to blame?* Plainly themselves. *The life boat was sent to them and they refused.*

Man is that rotten ship—fallen, ruined by sin, filling fuller and fuller of sins until he sinks into perdition. Christ Jesus is the life-boat. God so loved this poor, ruined, sinking world that He sent the life-boat, "That whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." Did the world believe God? Oh no, they rejected even such love, so great salvation. They murdered the Son of God. The death of Jesus was the offering of Himself, the atoning sacrifice for sin, God raised Him from the dead; and the risen CHRIST becomes the *life-boat* of every soul that trusts in Him. But, my reader, may I ask you a home question? Where are you—in the life-boat or in the old ship? Are you in Christ or trusting to self-righteousness of old human nature? *Are you one of the redeemed?* Can you say that you "have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins?" (Col. i. 14.) Or are you still in and of that world, which is guilty of rejecting and murdering the Son of God?

Perhaps you do not care for these things. Are you filling up the measure of your iniquity? You know when the old ship gets full it sinks, and when your last sin on earth shall be filled up and you sink into endless perdition, you will remember *who is to blame.*

But are you trusting to outward forms and ceremonies of religion? Now what good will this outside paint do? The ship is sinking, and if you stay on it, you will go down with the very paint brush in your hand. Oh my friend! all the baptisms, and sacraments, and ordinances that man can perform will never keep one ruined sinner from sinking into hell! Woe be to your poor soul if you trust in them.

Do you say there are so many opinions—how am I to tell who is right? Whoever points you to Christ, the life-boat, is right;