

22. 17.

Kahore te taitamariki e tino pai ai ki aua kupu. Katahi ahau ka ui atu ki a ia, E whakaae ana rauoi koe ko kua he tangata hara ki to te Atua titiro?

Ka mea mai ia kihau, "Aora, me pohea te kore. E mohio ana ahau he tangata hara ahau."

He ahau kata tana i aia nei i mea mai tana kupu ki ahau. Katahi ahau ka ui atu ki a ia, "Ka mohio koe he tangata hara koe a, kua ngaro hoki?"

Ka me mai ia ki ahau, "E kore pea e taea e ahau ki te whakaae i tana mea."

Ko te putaki tera o te rarururu nona! He hiahia nona ki te whiwhi i te manaa-kotanga o te Atua motu ke i tana whakaaetanga ki tona ngaromanga, tona kaha kore.

Elara i te mea anake i hara tatou katoa, kao, kua ngaro tatou, he kaha kore hoki; ae ra, he tangata kaha kore, mo te tangata i tutaki ki nga kai puhua i waengauni i Hiruharama i Heriko, na, ka hua ona o ratou, ka tukitukia in, a haere ana, whakarere iho ia, a kua mate.—Titiro ki a Ruka 10. 30.

Ka rere ke te ahau o nga hara ki to te Atua titiro ki to te tangata titiro. E whenei ana te tangata, e kore ahau he tangata haurangi, he tangata kanga, e kore e nui haere oku he. Hei reira o maharahata ana ia, E kore pea ahau i te tangata kino rawa.

E te tangata Atua kore e koreo ana i tenei pukapuka! Ka pera tau whakaaro mo? I whakariterite koe to ahua he ki te ahua he hoki o te tangata ke atu? A, e mea ana koe, e kino rawa ratou i ahau! Aue to mahi poraengi au! Ka pelaea te ahua a te tangata e tohutohungia ana e te Atua he tangata ki mua mo te roto ahi? Te tangata kohuru, te tangata korero teka rauoi? Kao. Eogari, nga tangata e pera ana me koe—e kore e kino rawa; Te hunga whoi! Te hunga whakateka! Te hunga i whakarongo i te kupu pera me tau i rongu ai, otia kihai i whakapono ki te kupu o te aroha o te Atua ki nga tangata.—Titiro ki te Whakakitenga 21. 8.

He nui rawa atu te whakaaro o te Atua ki to he i tau whakaaro.

"Te kaha kore." "Te ngaromanga."

some, or, in fact, most other people's? What folly! What sort of people does God put first, when He speaks of those who who shall have their part in the terrible darkness and misery of an eternal hell? The murderer? The liar? No! but those of your class, the "fearful," those afraid of confessing Christ; and the "unbelieving," those who have heard, just as you but have not heeded, God's message of salvation through the Lord Jesus.—Rev. xxi. 8.

How much more seriously does God think of your sins that you do yourself!


"Helpless"—"lost." Will you own it?

"When we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."—Rom. v. 6.

"The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."—Luke xix. 10.

A.J.H.B.

CHRIST, LIVING, DYING, RISEN, AND GLORIFIED.

 LIVING Christ said, "Come." This little word, frequently on the lips of Jesus, expressed the grace of the Father's heart, and of His own, to all who heard it.

Sent from glory to invite the lost and guilty, no word could more simply and suitably express the deep and divine desires of a God of infinite love towards poor prodigal man.

Dear reader, have you heard in your inmost soul that word "Come!" with all its persuasive power? It implies an *unconditional* invitation to draw near to the God against whom all your many sins have been committed. Say now with David, "Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned; or with the prodigal, "I have sinned against heaven"; but come!

God's heart is behind God's invitation. Full well He knows your sad rebellious history, more than memory can recall or tongue relate, and yet He pleads, "Come."

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