

"A WELCOME TO CHRIST"**Introduction**

1. A famous saying of Christ
2. It is full of kindness and help
3. It is really an offer of eternal life

1. CHRIST OFFERS A WELCOME TO ALL TO COME TO HIM

- 1) Christ here famously offers Eternal Life to men – under the idea of REST!

- (i) From condemnation felt in the conscience
- (ii) From exposure to the fears we all have
- (iii) From the torment of facing a lost eternity

OBSERVE: "Rest" here is a comprehensive term

- 2) This offer by Christ:

- (i) Is both invitation and command
- (ii) Is an expression of kindness, concern, love
- (iii) Is a genuine and sincere offer
- (iv) Is a well-meant offer
- (v) Is a free offer

There is a deep truth here: v. 25-27

APPLICATION: Never doubt Christ's sincere offer

2. WE SHALL NEVER VALUE CHRIST'S WELCOME TILL WE COME TO AN END OF OURSELVES

- 1) This is to be learnt from Christ's words: "All ye that labour..."
(Explain)

OBSERVE: The offer not limited – the desire of those who hear it is.

- 2) Why is this?

- (i) **Illustration:** thirst + hunger
- (ii) **Illustration:** ignorance of the danger ahead

(iii) **Illustration:** too careless to know there is a treasure inside the Bible

- 3) The offer is genuine to all – but who will want it if they are content as they are?

- 4) If you feel you need Christ – then come to him at once.

- 5) But if you do not feel your need – what are you to do? Are you unwelcome? No!

APPLICATION: Pray that God would open your eyes to know how sick and lost you are.

ILLUSTRATION: "I had this Bible twice". (Explain)

OBSERVE: The problem with sinners is that they do not welcome Him.

3. WHEN WE COME TO CHRIST WE RECEIVE FROM HIM WHAT NO ONE ELSE CAN GIVE US

- 1) This REST is an entirely different life:

- (i) Assurance of a good standing with God.
- (ii) Assurance of having a useful life with Christ
- (iii) Assurance of being taught in His school
- (iv) Assurance of becoming increasingly like Christ
- (v) Assurance of having a blessed life on earth

- 2) Who else can give you this?

- (i) Compare the "broken cisterns" and the "fountain" of which Jeremiah speaks.
- (ii) **Illustration:** Augustine's experience.

CONCLUSION

If you come to Christ you will receive this "REST".
If not, you will have only yourself to blame.

PSALM

91: 1 – 6

92: 12 – 15

119: 164 – 168