CHRIST THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

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Christ the Light of the World by C. J. Vaughan

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C. J. VAUGHAN

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OF THE WORLD

By C. J. VAUGHAN, D.D.



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WHY HE CAME.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,"—
1 Tim. i. 15.

"Ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins."—r John iii. 5.

WO Apostles speak here.

The one says, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

The other says, that He was manifested to take away our sins.

Men perplex and weary themselves with the question, Why must Christ come? Why could not God, by an act of free pardon, and by an act of entire sanctification, do all that is needful for the restoration and salvation of man? Why this complex machinery, of a Saviour and a Sanctifier, a redemption and a mediation, a tardy and oftentimes discouraging process of converting and trans-

forming grace—when the absolute will of an Omnipotent God might either have prevented the fall, or necessitated the rising?

Such questions will sometimes force themselves upon the mind and heart of the thoughtful. It may not be altogether wrong to ponder them, provided there be two things always found along with that pondering; (1) a deep humility, conscious of inability to fathom God's counsels; and (2) an earnest resolution to deal practically rather than theoretically with the subject; to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling, in the use of means which God has provided, and in the pursuit of an end which God has proposed.

What was the object of Christ's coming, of God's manifestation of Himself in the person of his Son Jesus Christ? is an enquiry always instructive, always quickening; while the speculation as to the necessity of a Redeemer, as to the prior probability of God's rescuing man through the sacrifice and mediation of a Divine but incarnate Saviour, may wait, together with the great mystery of the origin of evil, until man, rescued and glorified, shall be permitted to read God's secrets in the bright light of God's countenance.