

THE
TEACHER'S
BEST GIFT.



~~~~~  
A Reward for a good Child.  
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LONDON:

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Long-Lane, W. Smithfield.

◆
ONE PENNY.

FRONTISPIECE.



Let us adore the grace that seeks
To draw our hearts above ;
Attend, 'tis Christ the Saviour speaks,
And every word is love.

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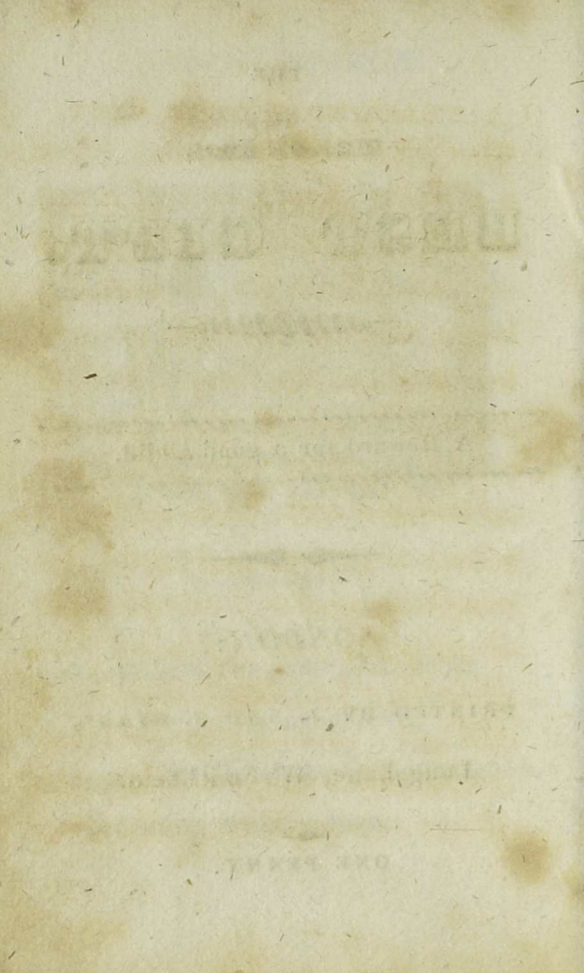
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LUKE xix. 10.

*For the Son of man is come to
seek and to save that which was
lost.*

THESE words set before you,
in the most striking manner, the

awful state of man, and the wonderful love of Christ. Man is a lost creature ! He has ruined himself by sin ! He has lost his holiness, his happiness, his heaven, and his God ! and he is become vile and wretched, the child of the devil, and the heir of hell ! O what a dreadfully awful state is this to be in ! Man who was once the darling of his Maker, is now become hateful in his sight ! He, who once enjoyed his Creator's smiles, now lives under his awful frowns ! He, who once partook of the Divine favour and blessing, now groans under his

dreadful curse! He, who once knew nothing of pain, sin, or sorrow, now stands exposed to a thousand diseases, and to everlasting misery! And, O my dear child, this is your state also! There is not a child in the world, however young it may be, but is a lost sinner, having the curse of the Almighty upon it! and every one must die, and appear before the judgment-seat of Christ! Yes, you are a condemned sinner! you must die; and you must give an account of yourself to God. You are lost, and cannot possibly restore your-

self! You are undone! You are destroyed!

But, is there no Deliverer near? Is there no Friend that can save lost miserable man? O yes, there is. What joyful news is this! And are you not ready to enquire, "Who is this Friend?" It is none other, my dear child, than the Lord of Life and Glory. Yes, He it was who came "to seek and to save that which was lost." O wonderful truth, that "God should so love the world, as to give his only begotten Son, that whosoever believ-

eth on him, should not perish, but have everlasting life !” How amazing is it, that “ God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved !”— (John iii. 16.) And, “ this is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners !”— (1 Tim. i. 15.) “ Whosoever will may come to him ;” (Rev. xxii. 17.) “ and him that cometh, he will in no wise cast out !” (John vi. 37.) O what glad tidings of great joy are these ! How fervently ought you

to love this great and gracious Saviour ! But what has he done for lost man ? He left heaven and came down to earth, he took upon him our nature, obeyed the law which we had broken, and suffered and died in our stead, “ the just for the unjust, to bring us unto God ! ” (1 Pet. iii. 18.) Yes, when he saw us sinking to hell beneath the dreadful curse of God, he flew on the wings of love from his heavenly throne, down into this world, in which he was born a feeble infant, and became a “ man of sorrows and acquainted with grief ! ”

(Isa. liii. 3.) And, O what tongue can tell the sufferings he bore for our sins ! Behold him in the garden of Gethsemane, borne down by sorrow, and covered with a bloody sweat, which fell in drops from his body to the ground !—

(Luke xxii. 14.) These bloody drops, were drops of love which he shed for us, and which, but for our sins, had never been wrung from his tender body ! Behold, how he loved us ! But how base—how barbarous was the treatment he received from the hands of sinners, on whose account he thus suffered !

For a great multitude of cruel men entered the garden with swords and staves to take him prisoner ! They dragged him away to appear before the high-priest, who condemned him to be guilty of death ; and after being scourged, buffeted, mocked, spitted on, and crowned with thorns, they led him forth to crucify him.—Behold, my dear child, the holy and lovely Jesus expiring on the cross in the greatest agonies ! Hear him praying for his very enemies, that his Father would forgive them, while the cruel spear was thrust into his side, which deprived

him of life ! O remember, that all the sufferings which the dying Jesus underwent, were for crimes which we have done !

“ For MAN, (O miracle of grace !)
For MAN the Saviour died ! ”

Now, what do you think of Christ ? Is he not your best friend ? Ought you not to love him with all your heart ? But this is not all that I have to tell you of him ; for he not only died to save you, but he seeks to save you !—Yes, he came to seek as well as to save that which was lost ! O how wonderful that

he should seek to save his enemies !
And how does he seek to save you ?
Why, my young friend, he seeks
you every day by the mercies he
bestows upon you. He seeks you
also by the Bible he has put into
your hands, which contains many
invitations that are made only to
the young.—(Mark x. 14. Prov.
viii. 17.) Whenever you hear the
Gospel preached, Jesus seeks you.
He seeks you also by all the in-
structions that you receive, and by
what I am now saying to you. And
shall Jesus seek you by all these
means in vain ? Will you never

turn to him and love him? Remember, that though he seeks you, he expects that you should also seek him ; and that he will come again at the last day, to take vengeance on them that would not come to him and obey him !

FINIS.

