

**On Christian Peace**  
**1851**

1. INTROD.—Peace is, as we all know, the special promise of the Gospel.

2. Isa. 40, Rom. 11, Isa. 9, “Peace on earth.” “Peace I leave with you” [John 14:27]. “Peace be with you,” and St. Paul “making peace” [Rom. 12:18].

3. This is the great want of human nature. It is what all men are seeking; they are restless because they have not peace. They always think the time will come when they shall be happy, yet it never comes.

The schoolboy—the young man—the soul in disorder.

4. Hence it forms to itself notions of peace and happiness, [such notions as we find in] novels, tales, poems; [notions which are] imaginary.

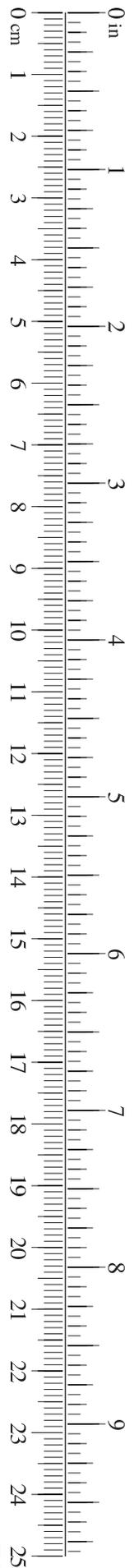
And above all, [notions of] religion. It attempts to make religions for itself, where everything shall be beautiful, etc.

5. Thus it goes on, and then it looks down on Christianity. Christ Jesus (they say) does not bring peace.

This is the way of so many infidels now. They say they want a religion more beautiful, more comfortable than the Gospel. They point to the gloominess of Catholicity—nothing sunny and bright—confession, penance, mortifications of the senses and the will; monks, etc., etc.; and they say this is a dreary religion, and they could form a better one. They say they could form a better god than the Father of Jesus Christ—a god of their own dreams; [they could form] a religion without sin and without punishment.

6. Thus they go on; but what is this but to say, “Peace, peace, where there is no peace”?

7. The more haste, the worse speed. Shrubs putting out their leaves too soon—the hare and the tortoise. “The end is the trial.”



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