

thers; but that religious instruction should mingle with the earliest and first impressions is clear, then our tears and prayers should be accompanied with reasonable information, exhortation and admonition. Lay before them the sinfulness and guilt of their state by nature, before a holy God of the penalty due to their sin—of the remedy which is provided in the Gospel, the atonement made for our sins by the death of the Saviour. And instead of telling them if they are good, learn their prayers and constantly repeat them like a good child of God, they shall go to Heaven—we say instead of this, tell them that they are sinners, and cannot think or do any good except it is given them from above—that nothing short of an application of the atoning blood of the Lamb slain on Calvary can ever prepare their souls for Heaven; to trust our self-righteousness is natural to all ages, and conditions of men; therefore it is much safer by the sword of God's word to cut it off than to build it up, and to discover that the fruits of Holiness and virtue spring from a purer root than grows in nature's garden, even from the grace of God in a renewed heart which will produce the fruits of righteousness and support them in immortal bloom in the midst of every rising storm—and as their capacities enlarge, endeavor to treasure up in their memory and understanding a system of truth, which however ignorant of the spirituality of at the present, if ever they are brought by regenerating grace to the saving knowledge of the truth, it will be an excellent mean to balance their judgment, with solid truths when their zeal and love is flaming; it enables the understanding and affections to keep pace with each other and may be a happy bulwark against error and delusion.

The Baptist catechism we think contains a brief summary of the Christian Religion, calculated to be an excellent help to parents and guardians in the instructing of children; we do not wish by this to supercede the scriptures which are a perfect rule of faith and obedience, but by it to lead to a greater veneration for the scriptures, and a child of common capacity may soon commit it to memory. Many leisure hours might be appropriated to this work; but any one who would make any proficiency in this work must attend to it at stated times and pursue it conscientiously. That part of the Lord's Day, which is not taken up in public, family, or secret Worship, might be taken up in imparting religious in-

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