

the Word; and that many of our interpretations of the Word are not consistent with the spirit of the Word itself! The Word is of *plenary* inspiration, and there is therefore unity, or oneness in it; and when fully known, it can teach but *one* doctrine on each subject.

Yours sincerely,

R. B. WIGGINS.

(No. 2.)

St. John, January 7th, 1851.

To Rev. R. B. WIGGINS.

My dear Sir,—I have read, attentively, the volume on “Mediums” which you sent for my perusal a week or two since, and am bound to say, that the author’s sentiments appear to me to comprise very serious errors. Passing by several points, which are by no means matters of indifference, I remark that

1. He denied the holy Trinity, as we hold it, that is, of three Divine Persons in the Godhead.*

2. He denied the doctrine of the *Atonement*, i. e. of pardon and forgiveness being obtained for man, by the shedding of Christ’s blood upon the cross.†

3. He denied the Mediation and *Intercession* of Christ.‡

4. He denied the doctrine of *Justification by faith*.§

5. To carry out his view in regard to the Atonement, he rejected the plain import of the terms in which the holy sacra-

* The view of Mr. Clowes, and of all Swedenborgians is—that there is one Divine Person in the Godhead, not three; that the Lord Jesus is that Divine Person; that He is the Father as to His Deity, the Son as to His humanity, the Holy Ghost as to His influence. This scheme flatly contradicts the Creeds, Articles and Liturgy of our Church.

† Mr. Clowes denies that we are cleansed from sin and restored to God’s favour by the blood of Christ shed upon the cross: he regards that as merely the concluding act by which Christ subjugated the Powers of Darkness. The Atonement, according to his system, is the reconciling, not God to men, but men to God; and the remission of sins means the *removal* of them by the cleansing power of the Word.

‡ Mr. Clowes denies that the mediation of Christ is a mediation between two other persons, with a view to their reconciliation.

§ To be justified, according to Mr. Clowes, does not mean, as our Article states, *to be accounted righteous*; but to be *made just*, partaker of a holy nature, or born again. To be justified by faith alone, is, in his view, contrary to Scripture and common sense. He says, it is much to be regretted that any doctrine should have been expressed so unguardedly in a Christian church.