

PREFACE.

These discourses owe their appearance in print to an intense desire on the part of the author to be useful to his fellow-men. He regards the salvation of souls as the great business of all who have obtained redemption through the blood of Christ, as well as of all who are dedicated to the work of the ministry.

In his extensive travels through the Province of Canada, he has often seen cause to lament the indisposition of many who are called Christians, belonging to the different sections of the Church of Christ, to put forth personal effort to save their fellow-men from eternal death ; and, therefore, he has occasionally directed the attention of his hearers to some of the topics discussed in this volume. This matter having occupied the author's attention for the last ten years, and not having met with any work on the subject, save an excellent little tract, of thirty-six pages, by the Rev. John Thornton, of Darlington, England, entitled "Christian Responsibility ; or, The Duty of Individual Effort for the Conversion of Sinners," (which was brought to this country by an immigrant,) it has often been impressed upon his mind that he ought to render some service to the cause of Christ, by preparing such a work for publication. But, though he long since sketched the outline of such a work, he has been prevented, by the nature of the duties of his office, from filling it up, and presenting it to the Church of Christ.

Determined, however, to direct the attention of his own people, in London, to the subject, he resolved, in October last,