

We may see instances of such sanctification from the beginning. When the ground was cursed for man's sake, holiness was separation from it, as in the persons of the antediluvian saints ; uncleanness was cleaving to it, as did the family of Cain.

When the earth again corrupted itself and God judged it by the scattering of the nations, holiness was separation from it, as in Abraham ; and apostasy was a clinging to it in spite of judgment, as Nimrod did.

When Canaan was judged, Achan's sin savoured of the apostate mind ; but Israel became a holy people by separation from it and from all people of the earth, by the ordinances of God and the sword of Joshua.

But Israel revolts. The circumcision becomes uncircumcision, and with them all on the face of the earth or in the world becomes defiled, and holiness is separation from it in companionship with a rejected and heavenly Christ.

The whole system, the world, is the judged or cursed thing now. It is the Jericho. While the camp lingers in the wilderness, we may be at charges or in labours on a mission to draw out the Rahabs ; but we cannot seek the improvement of Jericho, or display the resources and capabilities of the world.* Such doings would be unho'y, not

* The word, as including other thoughts, is also any moral or religious system or undertaking which does not act in company with a rejected and heavenly Christ.