

ANCE are the EFFECTS of the change !” He further asserts “ that remission of sins or justification is obtained by faith.” And we may therefore, safely conclude that his regenerated child of God is yet in his sins ; for if faith and repentance are the effects of the new birth, and remission and justification are obtained by faith, of necessity his convert is “born again” in his sins !! The conclusion is unavoidable. Admit the premises, and death itself is not more certain and inevitable than the unscriptural, unevangelical, horrid conclusion that sinners are created anew in Christ Jesus in a state of unbelief and impenitence ; for we are taught by Mr. Robinson that “ faith and repentance are the *effects* of that change !” But the doctrine is worse than absurd ! It is in direct opposition to every thing in the new covenant on the subject !! A regenerated, impenitent, unbelieving, unjustified, unpardoned child of God is a *rara avis in terris* ; and in the new testament *never* had a dwelling-place. On this important doctrine the living oracles are not ambiguous. There is no seeming ambiguity. No one can plead necessity for the advocacy of such a doctrine, with the teachings of Jesus and his apostles before him. The doctrine is the off-shoot of metaphysical disquisitions relative to the nature of man and the work of the Holy Spirit in his conversion ; it has no foundation in the word of God. The New Testament invariably and unambiguously teaches the necessity of faith and obedience in order to regeneration, or being born again. No one ever thought of any other doctrine while studying the word of truth until his mind became perverted by human philosophy. To prove this it will be necessary to quote but a few sentences from the divine Word : “ You are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus ; for as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ.” Gal. iii. 25. 27. Baptist evangelical theology says, ‘ you are mistaken Paul ; they were children of God before they had faith—faith is the *effect* of their being born again !’—“ Because you are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.” Gal. vi. 6. Evangelical theologians say, Paul, your teachings have an unpopular, heretical, tendency ; what you wrote to Galatia is equivalent to saying that a sinner must become a child of God before he can receive the Spirit. Well, says Paul. “ without *faith* it is impossible to please God ;” “ *after* the Ephesians believed they were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.” Eph. i. 13. And it may be added, by the sanction of all the apostles and Jesus himself, that *no one ever received the Holy Spirit till he became a believer in the Lord Messiah.* Mark the emphatic words, reader—*no one ever was*