

nue with you, as you grow up will the outward sign still do you any good?

S. No; for then I shall lose the blessing of it, although I may still belong to the outward and visible Church, in which there are hypocrites as well as saints.

T. How are you to judge of yourself whether you be a partaker of the inward and spiritual grace, and therefore really "a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven?"

S. By searching my heart and life, whether I bring forth fruit agreeable to my profession, and earnestly strive to fulfil those things which were promised in my name at my baptism.

T. Thus you perceive that the outward sign of itself can by no means be effectual to salvation; but too many, alas! substitute the shadow for the substance. You should therefore be led to self-examination, whether you are a partaker of the inward and spiritual grace, and are fulfilling the promises which were made at your baptism. Let me hear then,

"What did you Godfathers and Godmothers then for you?"

S. "They did promise and vow three things in my name. First, that I should renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh. Secondly, that I should believe all the articles of the Christian faith. And Thirdly, that I should keep God's