

THE

CHRISTIAN BANNER.

"Many men speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."
"This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

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JERUSALEM AND THE JEWS.

To a lover of the Scriptures every thing connected with either the ancient or modern history of Abraham's descendants is deeply interesting. So much of Israel's history clusters around Jerusalem, that every incident developing the past, present, or prospective condition of the renowned city of Melchisedec, commands more than ordinary attention. This is peculiarly the case with the intelligent advocates of the Apostolic Gospel. The various sects and parties which checker the moral map of christendom turn their eyes instinctively toward certain points, as the birth-place of their church. Hence Rome, Constantinople, Geneva, London, and other places have become almost as sacred and as much endeared to many hearts, called christian, as has Mecca to the devout Musselman. The origin of the sentiment and the feeling, doubtless, originated with the pious Israelite. He could worship God fully and acceptably, only, where the altar of Jehovah was erected and His sacred name inscribed. In process of time Jerusalem became not only the centre of true worship but the capital of a great and powerful kingdom. The magnificence of Solomon's Temple was to them an object of national pride and the centre of all affections. Deprived of their altar and the Temple of Jehovah they lost the heart and soul not only of their religion but of their political existence. To this consecrated spot, then, every sincere and devout Jew will turn his eye with the same yearning heart that swelled the bosom of Daniel, when, three times a day, he lifted his window and bowed his soul toward this city of his fathers and of his fondest youthful recollections.

The struggles of the reformers of the present century have contracted, at least in one point of view, with those of all that have preceded them, from the fact that they have kept distinctly before the