

and who so 'walketh as Christ walked ; a 'man that hath clean hands and a pure heart,' or that is 'cleansed from all filthiness of flesh and spirit ;' one in whom 'is no occasion of stumbling,' and who accordingly 'doth not commit sin.' To declare this a little more particularly : We understand by that Scriptural expression, 'a perfect man,' one in whom God hath fulfilled his faithful word, 'From all your filthiness and from all your idols will I cleanse you : I will also save you from all your uncleanness.' We understand hereby one whom God hath 'sanctified throughout, in body, soul, and spirit ;' one who walketh in the light as He is in the light, in whom is no darkness at all ; and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son having cleansed him from all sin.

5. 'This man can now testify to all mankind, 'I am crucified with Christ : Nevertheless I live ; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.' He is 'holy, as God who called him is holy,' both in heart and 'in all manner of conversation.' He 'loveth the Lord his God with all his heart,' and serveth him 'with all his strength.' He 'loveth his neighbor,' every man, 'as himself,' yes, 'as Christ loveth us ;' them, in particular, that 'despitefully use him and persecute him, because they know not the Son, neither the Father.' Indeed his soul is all love, filled with 'bowels of mercies, kindness, gentleness, long-suffering. And his life agreeth thereto, full of 'the work of faith, the patience of hope, the labour of love. And whatsoever he doeth either in word or deed, he doeth it all in the name,' in the love and power, 'of the Lord Jesus.' In a word, he doeth 'the will of God on earth, as it is done in Heaven.'

6. "This is to be 'a perfect man,' to be sanctified throughout : Even 'to have a heart so all flaming with the love of God,' to use Archbishop Usher's words, 'as continually to offer up every thought, word, and work, as a spiritual sacrifice, acceptable to God through Christ.' In every thought of our hearts, in every word of our tongues, in every work of our hands, to 'show forth his praise who hath called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.' O that both we, and all who seek the Lord Jesus in sincerity, may thus 'be made perfect in one !'"—*Wesley*.

THE WEALTH OF THE TRUE BELIEVER.

BY REV. ASA MAHAN, D.D.

"*Thou art rich.*"—REV. ii. 9.

These words constitute a part of Christ's message to the Church in Smyrna, a church whose members were very poor, so far as worldly possessions were concerned, and were also subject to great tribulations through dire persecutions from the civil authorities and their enemies around them, tribulations which were to be endured for an indefinite period in the future.

In view of all these impressive facts, Christ tells them "they are RICH," and exhorts them to "fear *none* of the things which they should suffer." They had only, through grace, to continue steadfast until the close of this short life, and they would receive at His hands a crown of glory, on the one hand, and to all eternity they should not be "hurt of the second death" on the other.

Christ had taken a careful inventory of the estate of these believers. He had taken into full and exact account all the tribulations and trials of faith which they had endured, were then enduring, and would endure in the future of their lives, on the one hand, and on the other, the ever enduring consolation and good hopes which they had in *present* possession, and the infinite and eternal weight of glory in reserve for them in the endless future which awaited them in the kingdom of glory above. The result of the unerring inventory under consideration was an infinite balance in their favor. They were rich—every believer among them who was holding fast his integrity. "I know thy works and tribulations and poverty ; but thou art RICH."

Dear Christian, for I speak now only to such as have not "cast away their confidence," who *are* walking with God, and whose fellowship is (now) with the Father, and His Son Jesus Christ, have you taken and are you accustomed to take, a careful inventory of *your* estate as a believer in Jesus ? Take into full account *all* the deprivations, calamities, pains, sicknesses, and fiery trials which have befallen you in the past, what you may now be called to