

this need not be, and we will with them look on to see if this devilish spirit to the least extent becomes visible, and will not be slow to point out its earliest appearance.

However, we know that it need not appear in the slightest degree. For, indeed what will we do more than others if swayed by such unholy impetus? We are on our trial, in a measure, before the world to prove in actual life, and that under the most trying circumstances, that, in the midst of the fiercest antagonism and extreme injustice, divine guidance makes us proof against all forms of sin. Still in all this it will be seen we bless and curse not.

We therefore do all our work publicly, and fling our doors open to all alike who choose to attend.

EXPOSITION.

"But now *apart* from the law, a righteousness of God hath been manifested." Romans 3-9.

WE teach that this has reference to the righteousness which is the necessary result of obedience to the Spirit. For it is distinct and dissimilar altogether from the righteousness which results from obedience to laws, even although these laws can be traced to Christ or an apostle. It is *apart* from the law.

So great is this difference that no figure of speech is too strong to mark the contrast. Hence it may be said that to the one who walks in the Spirit the other has become *dead*, no matter how great his former trust therein.

Again it is true of such that, with respect to former laws which he attempted to obey, now he neither, "*touches tastes nor handles*" them. For he well knows that this righteousness of God which hath been manifested in his life would "perish" in his attempting again to obey the law as contained in ordinances.

How many we have seen perish, that is,

lose, for the time being, the righteousness of God by an attempt to use the law which had become dead to them! As the Holy Spirit has claimed his sole right to be the living law to all such with reference to dress, food, prayer, bible-study, health, Sabbath observance, recreation, games of skill or chance, gatherings and practices forbidden by church laws or all kinds of doctrines and theological questions how we have seen, one after another, forfeit the righteousness of faith to fight, in trouble of mind and anguish of soul, the terrible battle which their tampering with the putrid carcass of the law had brought on!

The two cannot be brought together even in such serious matters as intemperance, gaming or pleasuring. He who insists on the observance of some law concerning any one or all of these things, as birding on himself or others, even under the specious plea of setting a proper example before others, especially the young, must perish in the use of such laws, nay, he himself is dead whilst he professes to live. For the righteousness of God is apart from all these things and irreconcilably opposed to them, not only as a whole, but in every conceivable variety of detail.

He only who obeys the living voice of the Spirit, and recoils from every form of legalism as deadly, illustrates the righteousness of Christ. And he does illustrate it up to the full measure of the example of his Master.

KNOWLEDGE.

KNOWLEDGE is power. Apply this old truism to the "walk in the Spirit." Knowledge of their being such a thing as the will in the Spirit must precede the "walk"—must precede the power to walk. Jesus required to have a clear knowledge of what the walk of God was before he could do that will. Then he required to receive power from on high also before he could do the will. "The heavens opened and the Spirit descended." What oc-