

differ. We are in the light, and the light in which we are detects that which is inconsistent with itself ; and we could not stand there, unless under the shelter of that very blood which has introduced us there ; and we learn there more and more the value of that precious blood. We have found in it remission of sins—it has washed us, and keeps us clean. Now, I believe “the uprightness of heart” mentioned in the last verse of this Psalm to be very intimately connected with self-judgment ; for this eventually turns us back on the blessedness announced in the Psalm, that the very evil which we have only now detected God doth not impute to us—God has covered it. It is thus that the heart is kept humble, and the conscience tender and lively. I believe the uprightness and honesty of confession which may have been manifested at conversion, is frequently impaired from neglect of self-judgment before God. A saint may become too solicitous about his own character in the eyes of his fellow-saints, or of the world, and thus unconsciously be led to act a part, instead of getting his life strengthened from the Spring and Source of life. There was a truthfulness in the exercise of heart which led first to Christ, but this is impaired when the maintenance of our character becomes our object, instead of Christ. Now, by self-judgment truthfulness is maintained, and our need of Christ in new and various ways becomes manifest. Let the exercise of soul be ever so personally humbling, yet if it leads to Christ, it leads to a larger