

God's word that giveth us light. It was for this reason that St. Paul exclaimed: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is **THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION** to every one that believeth." (Rom. i. 16.)

To be born therefore of **WATER** is to be born by the agency of **GOD'S WORD**. In further proof of this I may quote our Lord's language to His disciples: "Now ye are clean through the **WORD** which I have spoken unto you." (John xv. 3.) Christ's word (as water) had cleansed them, so that by it He tells them they had been made pure. St. Paul's teaching is to the same effect: "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water **BY THE WORD**." (Eph. v. 25, 26.) In this passage God's people are represented as being cleansed in the word of truth as in a sea, and thus made ready, as a chaste bride, for the coming of the Bridegroom.

As there are many who believe that by this word "water" we are to understand