

man. Beware lest you are deceived into thinking that joining a church will save you, for it will not. And if you are an unsaved church member I warn you that you are a lost sinner, and that unless you learn it and accept Christ as your only Saviour, you will go into the lake of fire at the end.

Christ died to save you from that, you need not go there, you may now come to Him and be saved, may by believing His Word become a member of the church of Christ. That is a blessed and wondrous place to be in. To be "in Christ" is to be in the most privileged place in the universe. If you, reader, are saved, you ought to know what the church of Christ is and what it means to be a member of it. In the twelfth of 1st Cor. you will find something to study. O how careless believers are about the Word of God! How little its truths are generally known. What are all the things which men seek for in this poor world when compared with eternal blessings, riches, and honors?

To be a 'church member,' in the usual acceptance of the term may have a business advantage or a social advantage, and in some cases it may be a spiritual help, but it has to many been a spiritual hindrance. There are hungry souls in the denominations who seek knowledge of Christ and His Word and do not find it, and if they seek light on the Bible very often get no satisfaction. This is a very sad state of things, but it is the true one. There are a few ministers who are spiritual, a number of members who are rejoicing in the

Lord, but the great mass are sunk in worldliness and ignorance and unbelief. It can be no advantage to belong to such churches, but to be Christ's, to be united to Him, to know Him, to walk with Him in His way, how blessed is such a life.—The time is now present when we must go forth to Him without the camp bearing His reproach. We are living in the days when men have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof, from such we are to turn away.

J. W. NEWTON.

A nobleman, Lord P., when in the cold arms of death, found the king of terrors pressing him sore. He told a person in his room to "go into the library and fetch that cursed book," meaning the book which had made him a deist. The person went but could not find it. Lord P. vehemently told him to go again, and to look until he did find it. "I cannot die," said he, "until it is destroyed." The book was found, and handed to him, when he tore it to pieces, and threw it with his dying strength into the fire. This was his dying act, for he soon afterwards expired. What a solemn warning against infidel books and principles.

Does the King's business require haste? Yet we stand in Vanity Fair, charmed with its music and the glint of tinkling feet; or, mayhap, we mingle with the self-seeking multitude and lose ourselves in sordid cares. What of our message meanwhile? Behold, the world lieth in darkness and the shadow of death, needing it, and blind to its awful poverty and need.