

popularity and respectability ! So desirous are men naturally for enjoyment, respectability, and some faint reason for the expectation of heaven, the wonder is that a greater number do not profess to believe in Christ while their hearts are immersed in the world !

In two particulars we confess ourselves greatly disappointed in the fruits of the revival of the Apostolic Gospel and the return to the order of ancient worship. For the good of the cause, and for the information of our junior fellow laborers these disappointments shall now be disclosed.

When first we embraced with all our heart the Apostolic Gospel, and began to announce the glad tidings to others, we imagined that nothing more was necessary after a full exposition of the *facts, commands and promises* of the Gospel, than to persuade those who gave attention to these exhibitions of the truth, to be immersed. The thought was never once entertained that any one, believing in the existence of the Supreme Being and a future state of rewards and punishments, could possibly, before God, angels and men, be persuaded to declare his faith in the Lord Messiah unless he had in deed, in truth and in heart consecrated his affections, his whole being, to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ. We deliberately came to the conclusion that every one who heard the Gospel, and manifested a desire to be immersed into the name of the Lord, would certainly be a genuine disciple of Jesus. The unpopularity of the doctrine, the opposition of the sects, and the absence of every worldly motive, were enough to deter any and every one from being immersed for remission of sins, who was not a genuine penitent and a true believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. But we have been disappointed. Many have declared their faith and repentance, and love for the Lord, and have been immersed into the sacred name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who by their Christless and prayerless lives shew that they have been "washed to fouler stains." The devil first opposes the truth directly : when he finds it too strong for him he tempts men to counterfeit it. Satan himself puts on the garb of an angel of light. It is no then surprising that his children should do so. When the chariot of truth cannot be stopped in its onward progress, he mounts the box and turns charioteer, and thus by furious driving he seeks to accomplish, under the guise of friendship and zeal for the cause of truth, what he had previously sought to effect by open opposition.

Many grossly dishonest, even in the estimation of the world, have professed to believe and repent, and have found a seat among the disciples. Men who neither render to God nor man their just due have been enrolled among the saints, and are "spots in their feasts of charity—feasting themselves without fear ;" and yet the really faithful are surprised that no more can be induced to obey the Gospel : "purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump," and then your influence will be felt.

The second disappointment to which we have alluded is, that men would from Lord's day to Lord's day meet the disciples of Jesus at the the Lord's table, and there participate with them in the reception of the loaf and cup—which is designed to remind the believer that Christ "bore his sins in his own body on the tree, that he should be dead to sin," and that "we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins,"—and at the same time roll sin as a sweet morsel under his tongue.