

that he is safe, while he is without that *faith*, which works by love and purifies the heart? A minister of religion is like the master of a vessel at sea, who if he takes a wrong course, not only endangers his own life, but the life of all on board.

In the close I would say, I feel grateful for the christian esteem you express toward me in your letters, and as I conclude your object was to expose what you considered error, and nothing personally, I hope you will view this in the same light. In my next letter, I purpose to examine the place assigned to Christian Baptism in the scriptures; and in what sense remission and washing away of sin are applied to it; and what I conceive is the path for Ministers and Churches to pursue, in admitting persons to that holy ordinance.

With ardent desires that you and I may be led into all truth, I subscribe myself yours, in christian esteem,

SAMUEL ROBINSON.

St. George; April 16, 1840.

REPLY TO MR. ROBINSON'S LETTER.

My dear Sir—I have deferred an answer to your letters until it has become apparent that the conductors of the "*Messenger*" are determined neither to publish my letters nor furnish a reason. Should I act after the "*manner of men*," a few sentences only, of your letters, would make their appearance in our publication. The natural dispositions of men prompt them to do unto *others* as *they* do unto them, and on this principle sectarian periodicals are conducted; but the golden rule is, "*as ye would that others should do unto you*," &c. It was my desire that my letters should have appeared in the "*Messenger*," so that those who saw one side, might be able to see who had the greatest amount of truth to present to an inquiring public; but the editors of the *Messenger* appear to be unwilling so to act, and being myself, at least *desirous* of acting up to the rule by which I profess to be guided, I have given your letter to our readers entire. Of them, we have only one request to make, after they have carefully examined your letter, viz.: Turn to the first volume, and read those letters to which this purports to be a reply. I do not, however, attach any blame to you, sir, for the course pursued by the *Messenger*, for I think that your magnanimity and sense of justice are so high, that you would have the Baptist community hear both sides. And here, perhaps, an apology from me may be considered necessary by some of our friends, for a remark in the June number, relative to your unwillingness to have both sides appear before the same readers. Since that was printed, I have learned by your last letter that you *had* furnished my letters to the editors for insertion, "*if they saw fit*." They are not so disposed. The reader knows the reasons as well as I do, and you perhaps better! I am, therefore, left to do unto others as I *would* they would do unto me; and I pray Heaven that I may never be left to advocate a sentiment against which I shall feel unwilling to hear what any honest man can say!