

He works in us; the one is a *relative*, the other a *real* change. The doctrines of Christianity are prefigured in the facts of Christianity. These two doctrines of a living Church were revealed to us on the cross of Calvary, in the water and the blood that flowed from the Redeemer's side.

"To be of sin the double cure;
To acquit from guilt and make us pure."

These are the two grand arteries flowing from the heart of Jesus Christ, conveying life, and causing spiritual circulation through all the members of his mystical body. As in the symbol of the vine and the branches. As the sap from the parent trunk permeates the branches, and makes them bear fruit, so does the life and grace of Christ animate all believers, and enable them to bear the peaceful fruits of righteousness. "This is a great mystery! It is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes."

While much is said, well said, and written about justification by the blood and righteousness of Christ, being the article of a standing or falling church; perhaps, too little is said and written about regeneration of heart and life, by the spirit of Christ, being the article of a living or dying church. The church that is without Christ's righteousness, is destitute of the element of its standing; the church that is without the Holy Spirit's work, has no element of life. Therefore, it is just as necessary that we should preach to you the necessity of spiritual regeneration and fitness for Heaven, by the work of God's Spirit, as that we should preach the necessity of a title to Heaven by the work of God's Son.

Antiquity.—It is an ancient Church. Numbers, tradition and antiquity, are not certain criteria of a true church. Error does not become venerable and command respect, merely because it is old. Truth has ever been in a minority, Christ's Church has ever been a little flock. The Church of Christ has the only true claim to antiquity; she is not only Patristic but Apostolic; her members quote the authority of the apostles, prophets and patriarchs—they date back to the ancient archives of the everlasting covenant; her members are an ancient people, "chosen in Christ before the foundations of the world were

laid." If antiquity commands respect and veneration, what can parallel the cross in all the elements of a true antiquity; before the suns of the morning sang together, and celebrated a new-born world, even then the cross was erected upon the high and holy hills of Jehovah's councils standing forth in prominent relief, the one central object, shedding its splendors upon the past, and casting its glories upon the future, the only hope of them that should believe to the end of time.

Catholicity.—It is the Holy Catholic Church, because all its members are holy; people doubly holy, through the imputed and imparted righteousness of Christ. Catholic, because her members are gathered out of the whole world: her pale is the universe. *I will bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from the ends of the earth. I will hiss for them and I will gather them, for I have redeemed them.* Because her doctrines are catholic—*one body and one spirit; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all. All have sinned: all the world have become guilty before God, that he might have mercy upon all. Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden. Ho every one that thirsteth come ye to the waters: and the Spirit and the bride say come, and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.* This is Catholic doctrine. Catholic, because her religion and worship are circumscribed by no natural, conventional boundaries, and are suited to every people, country and age; it has no peculiar exemptions or privileges for any sex, age, order, or degree; all are one in Christ. Jew and Gentile, bond and free. "The righteousness of Christ is unto and upon all that believe, for there is no difference.

The Gospel is the religion of sinners, not of sectaries; it is designed to be universal, immortal; it speaks a language that all can understand, and in tones that all must feel. Catholic, because all its members have large hearts, expanding with love and charity to all the particular compartments of the universal church; recognizing every man as a friend and brother, who loves the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, and consecrates his being to the glory of his Saviour, who opened his arms on the accursed tree to embrace a lost world, when emptying his heart of all but love; and I believe, just