

## THE BLOOD OF CHRIST ALL-SUFFICIENT.

No obedience or suffering of any mere creature can atone for sin. Conscience, wounded by guilt, dropping in the glimmerings of tradition, besotted with ignorance, and abused by imposture, has tried various expedients to propitiate Deity. Ablutions, pilgrimages, penances, and a thousand other superstitions, abound in pagan and anti-Christian nations. Wealth is lavished in offerings of peace, and the body is tortured for the relief of the soul. Lying vanities all! Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, and ten thousand rivers of oil?—Shall I give my first-born for my transgression; the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? Ah no! The evil lies infinitely deeper than to be reached by such remedies. The sacrifice, which will be to God a sweet-smelling savour, cannot be offered by men, nor by angels, nor by man and angels united. Not by men—for the end of an atonement is to deliver them from that very curse which must be borne in making it. Not by angels—for this would be inconsistent with the truth of God, which denounced the curse upon the human nature. Not by an angel-man—because no combination of created natures can sustain the wrath, or magnify the law, or vindicate the government of God. An overwhelming difficulty therefore remains. Where is the sufferer to be found? Who shall yield an obedience to merit heaven for millions, or offer up for their soul the redeeming sacrifice? The mere possibility of relief without a friend to apply it, only adds to our distraction. The light which was dawning upon our darkness recedes, and leaves us to deeper horrors. But hark! it is the voice of the Deliverer! Lo, I come. Who art thou, most gracious? I, that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. It is the only-begotten Son of God, who comes, clothed with humanity, for the salvation of perishing sinners.—*Dr. Mason.*

## WITHIN—NOT WITHOUT.

Look at the mass of mankind; they are seeking happiness; but whence? From outward delights; from wealth, from honor, from friendship, from the pleasures of sense. It does not occur to them that an inward preparation of mind is necessary to make even these objects the ministers of solid good;—to say nothing of the higher sources of happiness, which pertain to man's spiritual nature. O, blindness unparalleled! Will a sick man neglect the disease that is wasting his vitals and racking his frame with agony, and seek health, and strength, and rest, from delicious lands, from sweet odors, from soft music, from goodly prospect? Will he quench the flame of a fever by the fragrance of a rose? Will he cure an ague by arraying his body in gorgeous apparel? Will he remove a deep-seated consumption by listening to a jovial song? Will he heal a dropsy by feasting on a dainty meal? Will he eradicate a cancer by gazing upon a pleasant garden? Will he restore a mortified limb by resting it upon a downy pillow? He may do all this sooner than the sinner will find peace from objects of external good. The torment is within him. His soul is a den of corrupt passions, a cage of impure desires. It is desperately diseased with pride, self-will, rebellion, discontent, envy, fear, inordinate affections of every kind. These are the fever, the ague, and the dropsy of the mind. These he carries to the pursuit of earthly good, and it is all one whether he is successful or unsuccessful. If successful,—if, for example, he gains wealth,—then he is a miserable rich man; if unsuccessful, he is a miserable poor man. The wretchedness is in the soul itself, and all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them can neither remove nor palliate it.

## THE PRIVILEGES OF THE CHRISTIAN.

How great and honourable is the privilege of a true believer! That he has neither wisdom nor strength in himself is no disadvantage; for he is connected with infinite wisdom and almighty power. Though weak as a worm, his arms are strengthened by the mighty God of Jacob, and all things become possible, yea easy to him, that occur within the compass of his proper duty and calling. The Lord whom he serves, engages to proportion his strength to his day, whether

it be a day of service or of suffering; and, though he be fallible and short-sighted, exceedingly liable to mistake and imposition, yet while he retains a sense that he is so, and with the simplicity of a child asks counsel and direction of the Lord, he seldom takes a wrong step, at least not in matters of consequence—and even his inadvertencies are overruled for good. If he forgets his true state, and thinks himself to be something, he presently finds he is indeed nothing, he is sure to find a seasonable and abundant communication of all that he wants. Thus he lives, like Israel in the wilderness, upon mere bounty: but then it is a bounty unwearied, inexhaustible, and all-sufficient.—*Rev. J. Newton.*

## RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

## "GOD SHALL SEND FORTH HIS MERCY AND HIS TRUTH."

Mr. PRESSENSE, the Agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society, at Paris, has recently communicated the edifying narrative which follows. It is a vivid, practical illustration of the glorious prophecy, "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."—*Chr. Int.*

"About twenty months ago, a young man from the neighbourhood of Chartres, the son of a farmer in easy circumstances, felt himself called upon to forsake father, mother, brothers, sisters, house and lands, and to betake himself to Paris. He had led a gay life; and, though brought up in the Romish Church, had thrown off the yoke, and, as an infidel, ridiculed the Priests and the Clergy. In this state of mind—which, alas! is the state of the great majority of the population of our country—he was accosted one day by a colporteur, who offered him a Bible for sale, and at the same time addressed him in an earnest tone upon the great doctrines of salvation which it contained. Astonished at this address, the young man made some further inquiry; and at once declared that what he heard was *altogether different from the religion professed by the Priests*. After suitable explanations, he soon discovered that the New Testament made known to him things, both respecting God and the way of his own salvation, which he had not previously been taught. He immediately purchased a copy, and such was the impression produced on his mind by the conversation of the colporteur, that he resolved without delay to examine the Scriptures, and to make a diligent and careful search after the Truth. The Lord, in mercy, blessed his endeavors; and, by the aid of his word, caused the scales to fall from his eyes; convincing him of his state of guilt and condemnation, and leading him to the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ, where, through faith, he was enabled to obtain the assurance of pardon and reconciliation. Rejoicing in the happiness of the children of God, his first care was to devote himself wholly to the service of Him who had so greatly loved him; and calling to mind the instrument by which the Lord had been pleased to rescue him from a state of infidelity, he could not refrain from considering the calling of a colporteur as that by which he himself would be best able to glorify his God and Saviour. Under this impression, he arrived in Paris, with the full intention of offering his services to those Christian friends who had colporteurs in their employ, and respecting whom the individual who sold him a Bible had given him some cursory information. The persons of whom he first made inquiries concerning the object of his search, in the public streets, either did not understand him, or treated him with ridicule. As, however, he persisted in speaking of Bibles and Testaments, some one whom he encountered thinking he wished to visit our depot, gave him my address. I was greatly affected and edified by the love which he manifested towards the Lord and his fellow creatures; and it struck me that I had providentially met with one who was likely to prove a valuable assistant in our work. Accordingly I engaged him; and sent him to one of our oldest colporteurs, a man of unfeigned piety, but who had not had the advantage of a good education: recommending him to profit by the opportunity afforded him, in learning of his new companion to read more fluently, and to write, when they should retire to their nightly quarters. The Lord has eminently blessed the

labors of these his children since their meeting together, so that in the space of twenty-two months they have actually sold nearly 6000 copies of the Bible or New Testament. At the same time, the young person alluded to has made the most satisfactory progress with his friend in the knowledge of the truths of the Gospel, so that he has become an intelligent and active defender of his principles; and it may with justice be said of him, 'He lives, and therefore he speaks.' Full of faith and joy, he wrote to his parents, to inform them of the great change which had taken place in him, and of the happiness and peace which reigned in his heart; entreating them also to devote themselves to the Lord Jesus Christ. His father paid little attention to his appeal; and his mother, who was a bigoted Roman, alarmed at the state of her son, and instigated by the Priests, first accused him of heresy, and then broke off all connexion with him. It happened, however, that some time afterwards a colporteur visited the village in which the mother resided, and the Lord was pleased to conduct him to her house. His address interested her; she listened to him attentively, and was not a little struck at the great resemblance between his conversation and the contents of her son's letters. Her curiosity was more and more awakened; she became less reserved; spoke in terms of deep regret of the heresy of her son; and seized with avidity upon the assurances of the colporteur, who sought to undeceive her in regard to him. In fine, so greatly did the Lord bless the conversation to her soul, that before it was brought to a close, the poor woman felt convinced that the views of her son were correct, and that it was she herself who was wandering in the mazes of error. She quickly wrote to her son, begging him to return to her; alleging, that she wanted much to see him; and to be instructed by him in the way of salvation, of which she stood so much in need. Our young colporteur was labouring on the coast of the Mediterranean, when his mother's invitation reached him. He immediately requested me to grant his dismissal; and set out on a journey of more than 200 leagues, anxious to communicate to his friends and relatives some portion of that Gospel light which had been vouchsafed to himself, and by which he had been instrumental in opening the eyes of many of his fellow sinners."

## THE JEWS AND THE HOLY LAND.

ON Thursday evening last, the Rev. R. Murray M'Cheyne, of St. Peter's, Dundee, who formed one of the deputation appointed by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to visit Palestine and the neighbouring countries on a mission to the Jews, delivered an interesting and highly instructive address in Brunswick Chapel, in this town, (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) on the present condition and prospects of God's ancient people, which was listened to with devout attention by a crowded audience. We cannot presume to present our readers with anything approaching to an account of the subject so ably elucidated by the Rev. gentlemen, and which seemed to make a very deep impression on his hearers.—We have had many narratives of visits to the Holy land, but we never listened to one where our minds were so strikingly presented with God's truth and faithfulness in the exact and literal fulfilment of prophecy, as when the Rev. Mr. M'Cheyne, in his simple and graphic manner, described the scenes he witnessed, and we have no doubt many who heard him will now look with deeper interest into the prophetic allusions in Scripture, regarding that people so wonderful from their beginnings hitherto. We have a fearful picture of the deplorable condition and spiritual degradation of the Jews in Palestine, Moldavia, Wallachia and other places which the deputation visited, showing that they are a depressed and disconsolate people, sighing for the restoration of Jerusalem and Zion. The Rev. Gentleman forcibly pointed out the duty incumbent on Christians to plead for, and do much for that scattered people; and the blessings promised to that Church or people, who anxiously and sincerely sought their welfare, exhibiting as a beacon and a warning the present condition of Poland, a country that had treated them unkindly. On the whole, we felt much gratified and edified by the observations of Mr. M'Cheyne, and have no doubt he has awakened a lively interest in the object he has in view.—*Newcastle Advertiser.*