

2. He will come to complete the happiness of his people, (John xiv. 3).

3. He will come to sit as Judge of the human race, and award to all their final allotments.

IV. Certain practical considerations demand serious attention.

1. We must be content to remain ignorant on many important points. The number of those points will increase the longer we live. "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing," [Prov. xxv. 2]. And when HE conceals it, woe be to the vain man who thinks himself competent to search it out, and puzzles his brain and wastes his time in the endeavour. The Apostle Paul said, "If a man think that he knoweth anything, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know," [1 Cor. viii. 2]: and the Apostle Paul was a true philosopher.

The writings of Archbishop Whately contain many observations on this subject, which may be profitably studied by all who are desirous of being regarded as thinkers; especially his "Logic," and his "Annotations on Lord Bacon's Essays."

2. Let us avoid dogmatism. An old friend of ours was accustomed to say when various opinions were referred to in conversation, "A good deal may be said in favour of that view." Our friend's own views were rather broad, and he was very averse to dogmatism on any matter, in which respect he may be safely imitated. It is disgusting to hear shallow minded men talk in favor of their peculiar notions, assuming airs of authority, and demanding submission to their dogmas.

Opposed to dogmatism is *indifference*—a state of mind equally or even more dangerous. We have need to guard against it, as it often proves to be the parent of unbelief. The outcry raised in these times against *dogma*, as it is called, is as senseless as it is mischievous. There is a medium course, which an honest searcher after truth will have no great difficulty in finding.

3. Public instructors should shun speculations in their teaching. The reference is to the pulpit. It is rarely desirable for a preacher to unfold the *method* of a process. The results only need to be placed before an audience, accompanied by such explanations as will tend to satisfy intelligent hearers.

A singular case occurred many years ago in London. The pastor of one of our churches in that city had employed himself in some speculations, partly philosophical, partly theo-