

eous condemnation of others ; but in a life of genuine goodness, purity, and truth. The evidence of the Christian spirit is in the Christian character. By their fruits shall ye know them. " Pure religion and undefiled before God the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world."

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## CHRIST AND THE INDIVIDUAL.

BY REV. J. MARTINEAU.

PERSONAL repentance, the transference of the life from conventionalism to conviction, the kindling of pure and productive affections, must precede and usher in the reign of God upon the earth ; men must truly venerate the Deity within them, and he will not be slow to descend with his peace on society around them. The holy and divine must first be recognised and enshrined in the individual and private heart ; and then will follow its wider conquests over humanity. *There* is the home and citadel of its strength, from which it sallies forth to win its public triumphs, and establish its general rule ; *there* the centre whence its influence radiates, till it embraces and penetrates even the outlying margin of barbarism and sin.

Christ then, whose voice is Christianity, addresses himself first to the individual conscience ; indulging in no dreams of a renovated world without, till he has flung his appeal to the man within ; looks *there* for the creative and vital forces, which are to make all things new. He speaks to his hearers, not as to passive creatures who