

salvation through Christ is preached to sinful men, and will be so to the end of the world. And if it is indeed true, as cannot be gainsaid, that the applying of salvation to sinners by the efficiency of the Spirit, is constantly and everywhere as requisite as was the procurement of it by the great Redeemer, through His obedience unto the death of the cross, as an all-sufficient atonement for human transgressions—then it is plain that the subject matter of this book is exceedingly momentous, and calls for the deepest attention both of Gospel preachers and Gospel hearers.

We shall give a short analysis of Mr. Arthur's volume, and make a few remarks upon it, just to induce a full perusal of it.

It is divided into six chapters: 1. The promise of a baptism of fire, the promise to that effect given by the Saviour to His disciples before He left them, and returned to heaven, after His crucifixion and resurrection. 2. The waiting for the fulfilment, during the period of ten days that intervened between His ascension, in the presence of the eleven, and the descent of the Holy Spirit, as is related in Acts, chap. ii. 1-4, followed by the great results which are recorded in that extraordinary chapter. 3. The fulfilment of the promise, as has just now been stated, by Him who is faithful and true, and never fails to make good what He has said, when the proper time arrives. 4. The effects which immediately followed the baptism of fire, spiritual effects, miraculous effects, ministerial effects, effects upon the world. Here is a wide field for most interesting statements and illustrations, which Mr. Arthur has traversed with great ability. 5. Permanent benefits resulting to the Church. At this point he lays it down as a fundamental proposition, that *a religion without the Holy Ghost, though it had all the ordinances and all the doctrines of the New Testament, would certainly not be Christianity*. What a searching test does this supply, for proving Christian Churches, so called! If they have not His Spirit among them, and pervading them, they are not of His body, the true Church. Mr. Arthur dwells upon the proposition in question at considerable length, exhibiting it in a variety of lights bearing powerfully on the real success of the spiritual recovery of men from the fallen and miserable condition into which sin has sunk the whole world. 6. Practical lessons. Having shown that all really good results from Christian truth, in the minds and character of men, must flow from the agency of the Holy Spirit, Mr. Arthur, in this chapter, restricts himself to three topics—1. We may learn a lesson on the source of power; 2. On the way to obtain power; 3. On the scale on which our expectations of power should be framed. The illustrations upon these lessons are brief, but striking, and well worthy of being carefully pondered by all who desire that the enlightening and purifying effects of the Gospel by the Holy Spirit may be extended over the whole world.

It may now appear that Mr. Arthur's book is one of no ordinary importance. We repeat that it is highly deserving of being read, and thought upon, and prayed over, especially by ministers. They must owe all the saving success of their ministrations among poor sinners to the co-working of the Holy Spirit, along with their humble and earnest endeavours. We would invite their attention to one extract, taken from the conclusion:

“Creeds, Catechisms, Confessions are not to be treated as is now the fashion in many quarters to treat them; but when kept in their proper place as human and fallible, and strong only when they accord with God's holy oracles, have