

"ON LIFE ETERNAL;"

ITS SCRIPTURAL DEFINITION, AND HOW TO BE OBTAINED.

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou has sent."—*John*, xvii., 3.

These comprehensive words form a portion of the sublime and fervent prayer which our blessed Lord and Saviour, just previous to his last sufferings and death, addressed to His Heavenly Father in behalf of his believing people through all ages. Like many other passages of sacred revelation, they briefly embody several of the most important truths and principles of our Divine Christianity. This concise comprehensiveness is, indeed, one of the many remarkable characteristics of the Holy Scriptures, and which so fully show their divine origin and manifestly distinguish them from all merely human compositions.

The following passages are of a similar comprehensive description:—"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God."—*Rom.*, iii., 23-26. "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works."—*Titus*, ii., 13, 14. In the first of these two cited passages we have the humbling announcement of the universally sinful native condition of man; next the free, unmerited grace and mercy of God, in providing an all-sufficient method of deliverance from the dreadful consequences of that condition, through the sacrificial and atoning blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as a