

that although we ought to feel ourselves the "chief of sinners," yet such did Christ come to save; that though we should feel our lost condition, by nature and practice, yet "He came to seek and to save the lost." We know if any man sin we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and He is the propitiation for our sins;" that the work of atonement for all the sins of the whole world was *finished* on the Cross—and no lapse of time, or change of circumstance can add to, or diminish from, the perfection of that atonement,—that we are justified by faith, and have peace with God, through Jesus Christ,—that He is *all* in the salvation of the soul. These and such like precious truths, are the only balm for the wounded spirit, the only source of real comfort, in view of the judgment seat, and the boundless Eternity. Miserable, indeed, would be our situation, hopeless our prospects there, if we were to depend on our own works, be they ever so good, or numerous, or ever so highly extolled by man. Imperfection still marks them all, in every day and every hour of our lives; and therefore our only resource must be in the merits and perfect righteousness of the Saviour, applied by faith to the soul. And that is enough. Out of His fulness we may all receive all we want, and more than we deserve.—Prodigal children though we are, when once we return to our Father, we will find the best robe of the Redeemer's righteousness ready to put on, and to cover up all our rags, and fit us for the Holy of Holies. Keep these things ever before your eyes; they are the teachings of your Bible and of your Church.

But in these days of perverse disputings, error and false doctrine, there are those who would obscure the simple shining of Gospel truth. Beware of such. St. Paul tells us that in these last days there will be efforts to spoil our faith through "philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, and not after Christ, in a voluntary humility, and worshipping of angels, after the commandments and doctrines of men, and with a show of wisdom in will-worship and neglect of the body,—and not holding the HEAD." Such errors creep in by stealth, not boldly, like "the truth as it is in Jesus." And they do not come all at once, but gradually, by the introduction of some new ceremony, some change of previous customs, not startling the casual observer, as if it would lead to any corruption of word or doctrine, but