

lators, and before the violators of it, and God will make her protest effectual.

But, to return, in order to save we must love. Christ's is the only solution for the problem of the day.

4. *The life and love of God is manifested in the life of his people.* It is to His people that the world looks for an exhibition of His spirit. "Hereby we know that He abideth in us by the spirit which He hath given us."—(1 Jo. 3: 24) Such should be true of His people. But it is not so in many cases. His image has not been rested in us. His character has not been impressed upon us in the smallest measure. The only mark of any connection with God is external. An outward union with His church. This is entirely unsatisfactory and insufficient. "Hereby know we that we dwell in Him and He in us, because He hath given us of His spirit." How great the responsibility this places upon us. We are here to reveal God to the world. By the pureness of the life, by the love that shines in it, by the unselfishness of it, by the zeal for that which is right and just which animates it, by these and other features which the spirit of Christ impresses upon it, men are led to know God. He who creates such a life, who preserves it in a world of sin, who inspires it from day to day, is a God before whom the unholiest will bow. If we could believe that the Pharisee truly represented God, could we love or honor a Deity who delighted in such characters. Let us rather give more time to the contemplation of God as He is revealed in Christ, for so doing "we shall be changed into the same image even as by the spirit of the Lord," and so shall reveal God to those who know Him not.

5. *The recognition of the love of God in Christ is the beginning of repentance, and often new life in man.* To be able to acquiesce from the heart in this word of John concerning God is a great step. To know and believe the love which God hath to us is salvation. Let that love be brought home to the heart and the effect is irresistible. Many can say, "we have known," but they stop there; they cannot believe in the sense here required. But, indeed, if any can say, "we now have known," in the sense in which these words are used, then such are entitled also to say, "we have believed." "The apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ" is the turning point. Apprehended, it can no longer be resisted.

Faith lays hold of it. Standing above all the pains and perplexities of life, in view of all the scenes and experiences which are a stumbling block to our faith, His people can say: we have known and believed. These, then, are the two essential things. "Yes, O guilty one, let God love thee; yes, believe the love God hath to thee, and rest thy all eternally in it." "Know and believe the love God hath to you, and you shall have all that you are willing to receive, more than you can ask or even think."

ADDED POINTS.

1. We should respond with grateful obedience to the manifestation of God's love in Christ.
2. God has given us many other precious manifestations of it in our own lives, which should call forth our gratitude.
3. We should cling to this statement of the divine character notwithstanding all experiences and appearances to the contrary.
4. Whatever hinders our perceiving this truth shall yet be taken out of the way, and the divine love will shine forth in its fulness.
5. This sacrifice of Jesus Christ teaches us that sin is an evil greater than we are disposed to believe it to be, since none but Jesus Christ could atone for it.
6. Jesus requires of us an open confession of His name, which, if true, is an evidence of our union with Him.
7. Man turns away from the contemplation of divine love, lest he should be constrained to yield to it.
8. This love, when we know it, and possess it, must be shown by us to our fellow men.
9. This love to our fellow men is the best evidence of our possessing the love of God.
10. The full unfolding of the divine love will be in the hereafter, in the glories of the heavenly kingdom. Then only will redemption be understood.

THE BLACKBOARD.

LOVE SENDS
SAVES
SANCTIFIES
"God is Love."