

never expect to have \$500 to be able to purchase it. If your teaching therefore about the necessity of believing and the rule of faith, is right, Christ must have cared very little about the salvation of the souls of the poor. The rich may make use of your rule of faith, but we, who are poor, who have no \$500 to spare, can never avail ourselves of it. Therefore, if your rule of faith be the rule of faith, ordained by Christ for the poor man as well as the rich, then never speak to us again about the great, the unbounded desire of Christ to save us, the poor of the world."

Such might well be the language which the poor, the vast majority of the world in all ages, might have addressed, in regard, to the rule of faith, to the Rev. Mr. Stephenson, had he lived and preached before the art of printing was invented. Previous to the 15th century it was impossible, as every one acquainted with the difference between writing and printing knows,—I will not say for one in a thousand—but for one in every *ten* thousand of the population of the world, to become possessed of a copy of the Bible; for \$500 was as rare a thing then as it is now, in the hands of the poor man. And such being the case, how could Mr. Stephenson's rule of faith be a "sufficient" guide for all people during these fourteen hundred years? And if it was not a sufficient rule for over fourteen hundred years of the Christian religion who can say that it is the rule or means, ordained by Christ? It is evident from what I have said that, while the Holy Scriptures may be the Rev. Mr. Stephenson's rule, they were not and are not the rule given by Christ to the world,—to the poor as well as the rich,—to teach them what they must believe upon pain of being damned.

But even at the present day, when type and steam-presses, have scattered Bibles over the world by millions, and reduced their price to a mere trifle, are there not difficulties in the way, which prove that the Holy Scriptures are not a "sufficient" rule of faith for all men and consequently not the rule ordained by Christ?—(Second question; see page 6.)—What is the proportion of the population of the world, who are unable to read? At least one half, some say two thirds, some say three fourths. And what can this one half, two thirds or three fourths, do with the Bible as a rule of faith for themselves? They cannot read, therefore they cannot consult or search it themselves. And still Mr. Stephenson says, they must search it; must "hold themselves responsible" for searching it. Really this is a hard saying; millions and hundreds of millions of people held responsible for searching the Bible; they cannot go to Heaven unless they do search it and learn from it what they must believe—"he that believeth not shall be condemned."—and still they cannot read, and therefore cannot search it themselves; they must, therefore, if left to themselves, without teachers to instruct, to teach, them ever remain ignorant of what they are required, under pain