

law of Christianity. "For this cause we also, since we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye may walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

As to *circumstances*, I believe that a person may be led by them. Scripture has settled that but this is what it calls "being held by bit and bridle." (Ps. xxxii, 9.) "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go. I will guide thee with mine eye." Such is the promise to, such the privilege of, him who has faith. He warns us against being "as the horse, or the mule" which have no understanding of the will, the thoughts, the desires of their master. They must be "kept in by bit and bridle." Without doubt, that even is better than stumbling, or falling, or jostling against Him who has us in charge, but it is a sorry condition to be in. And there we see what it is to be *directed by circumstances*. It is merciful on God's part to do it; but it is sad on ours to require it. There is absolutely nothing moral in it—that which influences is from without.

A person acting without the knowledge of God's mind is a case that ought to have no exist-