

demned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit." We need a Saviour, and it is only on the grounds of His merits that we can be accepted of God, and at last reach glory. Faith in Christ is the means of bringing His own Spirit home to us, and giving us a new heart and a new life. This is the power to make men righteous—the power by which man obtains pardon for his past offences, and an effective influence enabling him to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. You clearly perceive that it is an obedience produced by the *grace of God*. God gives grace not to be turned into lasciviousness, but to enable us to do His commandments, and we are thereby laid under such obligations as no power can dispense with.

You should do His commandments *affectionately*. Love should be the principle. "If ye love me keep my commandments." You cannot love God until you know that He has first loved you—and you cannot know this until you have believed in Christ. "He that believeth not is condemned." "If any man love me, I will manifest myself unto him." "The Father Himself loveth you, because ye have loved me." Where *love* is wanting, all is wanting; it is, so to speak, the faculty by which we apprehend God, without which we can never know more of Him than that He is a dread mystery. Love is the fulfilling of the law: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy strength." The obedience of love is not grievous, but cheerful, delightful, and active. "I delight to do thy will, O my God, for Thy law is within my heart." He who delights in the Divine law, loves it, not merely because it answers to his intuitions of moral propriety, nor merely because it is designed and fitted to yield happiness to

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