

We should observe, he does not believe the child has sufficient strength to perform the task. He replies—"I defy you to prove that I have stated that the child is unable to raise such a weight; here are my words—'he cannot lift 300 lbs. *without his father's assistance.*'" Ah! that explains the mystery! But then, the power is in the father, and not in the child; the child is powerless, comparatively speaking, until the father assists him. What should we think of the father who should command a child to perform such an impossibility, and then punish the child for a non-compliance with his command? The whole earth would say he was a cruel tyrant. Well, just such a tyrant do such systems as the above make our benevolent and merciful heavenly Father!! He "commands *all men* every where *now* to repent." He says, "Repent ye therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, &c." Men are blamed in the bible for not being converted; and Subscriber says the gospel cannot convert them, as though he had said, the Lord has not imparted to them sufficient strength, and they must wait for the Lord to help them, by giving them a "light from on high!" and those who do not repent will be damned. And for what? Either for the want of the light, or a want of ability or disposition to obey it. The bible always holds out the idea that the Lord has done all consistent with his character and perfections, and men are wholly to blame for not receiving salvation. The dart which will pierce the sinner's soul in eternity will be, "you knew your duty, but did it not."

In the opinion of Subscriber, what is the Gospel? What does he mean by the words "glorious light?" Paul says, (1 Cor. xv. 1-3,) "The gospel which I preached unto you, by which *you are saved*, is, Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again the third day according to the scriptures." The good news, then, is the illustrious facts concerning the Lord Jesus Christ, and that he who believes them, repents, and is baptised for remission of his sins, shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts ii. 38. This is the gospel; that which enlightens, consoles, and comforts the obedient believer in the Lord. Jesus is the "light from on high," the "light of the world," "a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Israel." He who follows him shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life, for he is the sun of righteousness, which has arisen with healing in his beams. What more then do we want, since "the entrance of thy [the Lord's] words giveth light." Ps. cxix.

He promised a baptism of the Holy Spirit, and it has taken place accordingly. Hear the word of the Lord, (Acts i.) "John baptised in water, but ye shall be baptised in the Holy Spirit, *not many days hence.*" A few days subsequently—the day of Pentecost, the promised baptism was received by the disciples in Jerusalem. The first Gentile congregation who heard the word which went forth from Jerusalem and believed it, also received this baptism, as a witness that they believed, and that the Lord was as willing to receive them as the Jews; making no difference in the impartation of these splendid gifts. Acts 2d and 10th chapters. This has never been repeated. As rationally might we look for the power of speaking in foreign languages without study, as the