

has been abundantly verified in the history of the world at large by the result of the Saviour's resurrection from the dead. Ever since that date He has been stretching out his hands entreating the rebellious and the gainsaying to return, but in the majority of instances with what little effect. In the light therefore of that resurrection let every one carefully study the reply given to the rich man in Hades. It is deserving of a more careful attention than it sometimes receives in the present day. It may be doubted whether the same answer that Abraham gave would be given now to the same question in some of our modern ecclesiastical assemblies. If the question were asked now, to which I have already referred "How shall we best improve the moral and religious condition of our people? How prevent the ungodly from going to the place of torment". Some would say, "They have the Church, let them hear the Church." Others "They have the priests let them hear them."¹ Others "they have the Bible and the creeds, let them hear them." But how many would say exactly what Abraham said, "They have Moses and the Prophets," (In other words the Old Testament Scriptures) "let them hear them" This answer maintains the sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures alone without note or comment for the reformation of man. Even without the intervention of any living creature individual or corporate fallible or infallible. The passage not only maintains the sufficiency but also the supremacy of Holy Scripture, and that in a very remarkable manner. The testimony of the text, observe, is not the testimony of Abraham only, it is the testimony of Abraham as quoted and approved by our Saviour Christ. We have it therefore from the lips of Christ Himself that the Scripture stands supreme, even in his own presence, the presence of a living personal infallible Teacher such as He Himself was. Frequently did the Lord himself inculcate this lesson while he was here upon earth. Notably in the case of the lawyer who asked the question, "what shall I do to inherit the eternal life?" His answer was not a reference to himself as a personal infallible teacher, nor yet to the Jewish Church as authorised by God, but to the law and to the testimony saying, "What is written in the law how readest thou?" Hence we learn that no agency whatsoever human or divine can in the present dispensation take the place which the Sacred Scriptures occupy by divine appointment in relation to the moral and religious improvement of the human race. Men may practically set them aside as