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THE CLAIMS AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE CHURCH.

IN a former article we showed that the parent represents the child-a principle that obtains both in civil and religious When a parent lays hold of the Covenant he lays affairs. hold of it for his child also, and that child is held bound by the parent's act, and the Church regards him as so included till, by an after life of sin, he shows that he refuses to make the parent's act his own, and is resolved to separate himself. By faith Noah prepared an ark for the saving of his house, and from his day to our own he stands forth as a proof that a righteous parent obtains a blessing from the Lord, not only for himself but for his children also. The New Testament says, "By faith he saved his house." But this is just what the Old Testament history has recorded of him, "I have seen thee righteous before me, come thou and all thy house into the ark." Even Ham, who as far as personal character was concerned, manifestly deserved to perish with the ungodly world, was saved from the flood for his father's sake, and by his father's faith. This law runs through the whole Bible-" If ye have judged me to be faithful come into my house." No truth is more clearly taught in the Bible than this: that God blesses one for the sake of [229]