

which he stands connected with his creatures. 'To know Christ, in his person—offices—*love* and *sufferings*.—To know the way of salvation, as marked out to us in the *Scriptures of eternal truth*. Encourage them all you can to perform their several duties, reward them when they merit it, or you have promised it, and correct them when they need it. Show them constantly a good example, in all respects, pray with them and for them, and impress upon their minds, the necessity of praying for themselves, and whenever it is practicable, have them with you in public, private, social and family worship. Show them how important it is, that they become acquainted with the BIBLE above all other books: See 2. Tim. 3. 15, 16, and Psalm. 78. 1—8, and having done what the word of God requires, you may with safety venture to leave the event, with him who is the wise disposer of all events, and without whose aid we nothing good can do. And always bear in mind that "SIN is the transgression of the LAW;" See 1. John. 3, 4, and "where NO LAW is there is NO *transgression*."—Rom. 4. 15.

Question. As the thought has just occurred to my mind allow me to ask, is it not very probable that there were children in those churches to which the Epistles were addressed?—and especially as children are so frequently named throughout the New Testament?

Answer. If you mean INFANT *children*, it is very *improbable*: but this mistake grows out of our being too apt to affix the idea of *infancy* to *children*; whereas if we did but examine those epistles, we should soon find, that *children* there spoken of were such as had understanding, and who had once been sinners, but were then professed saints. And here I will give you a *few*, out of many, examples. When Christ was reproving the *Scribes and Pharisees*, he calls them "the *children* of them which killed the prophets.—see Matt. 23. 31. When he showed himself to his *disciples*, after they had been *fishing* through the night, he asked, CHILDREN, have ye any meat?" see John. 21. 5. It is evident, they were not infants, which he addressed on either of those occasions.—PAUL, in his address to the Romans, calls them "SAINTS," and thanks God, that their "FAITH is spoken of throughout the world;" see Rom. 1. 7, 8, and in chap. 8. ver. 16, 17, he calls them "CHILDREN of God."—When writing to the church at Corinth, he addresses them as being "sanctified