

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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CONDUCTED BY W. W. EATON.

Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.—Peter. On this Rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.—The Lord Messiah.

## LECTURES TO CHILDREN.

BY JOHN TODD.

### LECTURE IV.

WHAT FAITH IS, AND WHAT ITS USE IS.

Without faith it is impossible to please him.—HEB. xi 6.

I AM going to make this Lecture very plain, and, I hope, very interesting to these children. You may, at first, suppose it will be about what you cannot understand, and that it cannot be interesting to you. But let us see. I do not believe there will be five of these children who will not hear it all, and remember most of what I shall now say.

There are many kinds of faith or belief among men. But only one kind is the true faith, without which it is impossible to please God, because only one kind of faith makes us obey God. I will explain it to you.

A little girl was once walking with her father, and they were talking together. They were talking about being *generous*. The father told the little girl that it meant "to give to others what would do them good, even if we had to go without ourselves." He also told her, that generous people were happy; because nobody could deny himself any thing, in order to give it to another, without feeling happy;—so that no one ever lost any thing by being generous, because God would make him happy for doing so. He then asked her if she *believed* this. She said, "Yes, father." In the course of their walk, they went into a book-store. The little girl said, "Father, I want one of these new books very much." "So do I," said the father; "but I cannot afford to buy each of us one. But here is some money; and you may do just as you please; you may buy a book, and give to your father, and go without yourself, or you may buy one for yourself, and I will go without. Do just as you please." The little girl hung her head, and looked at the new books; but then she thought of what her father had said about being *generous*, and she had *faith* in his words. She quickly said, "I will go without, and father shall have the book." The book was therefore bought. And the child felt happy, because she had believed her father, and because she had been *generous*. The bookseller, however, overheard the conversation,