

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to those who believe on his name, which was born not of blood, nor of the will of man, but of God."—No spiritual blessings from fleshly descent.—John i. 12.

"Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound, God forbid; how shall we that are *dead* to sin live any longer therein? Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into his death, therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised from the dead, by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."—Rom. vi. 1 2 3 4.

"He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting \* life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life.—Verily I say unto you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and they that hear shall live."—John v. 24 25.

"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also you are risen with him, through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead, and you, being dead in your sins, and the circumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened, together with him; having forgiven you all trespasses."—Col. ii. 12.

"If ye then, be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."—Col. iii. 1.

"For God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sin, hath quickened us together with Christ, and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ."—Eph. ii. 4.

In the parable of the prodigal, in his unconverted state he was considered as dead, and upon repenting he is viewed as alive from the dead.

Those alone who are led to the Saviour, escape the second death; therefore all who are converted to Christ, upon such the second death hath no power.

Believers who are buried with Christ in baptism, are stated to be risen with him, and required to walk in newness of life. Upon all such the second death hath no power.

"For this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, but live according to God in the Spirit."—1 Peter iv. 6.

#### REFLECTIONS.

The death of the body passes upon all, arising from our connection with Adam. The second death is the fruit of our actions; "the soul that sinneth it shall die." Infants incapable of sinful actions, suffer the death of the body from their connection with Adam, but as man is to be judged for the deeds done in the body, and infants and idiots of all nations, not being capable of sin, they derive from the second Adam that blessedness which Christ hath purchased by his death, so that as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive, come forth to judgment according to the deeds done in the body, while those who were converted in or made alive by believing in, Christ, on such the second death hath no power.