

“If a man love me,” says Jesus, “he will keep my words.” “By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep his commandments: for this is the love of God that we keep his commandments.” If we say that we know God and keep not his commandments, John says we are liars. I say, then, that no man, living or dead, since the church of Christ was established, has had or can have any scriptural evidence that he is born again, until he *believes* the gospel, *repents* of his sins, and is *immersed* into the name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you, or any other man capable of examining the subject, question this, the pages of the Christian are open—speak out—you shall have a hearing.

21. Faith is certainly an evidence of justification; but not as your “Sunday Service” has it:—“Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort!” Wholesome, truly! James says, that “Faith alone is dead!!” And in chapter 2d, verse 24, he declares, that “by works a man is justified and *not by faith only!!*” This discrepancy between the Apostle and your articles of faith I shall leave you to settle at a higher tribunal than the readers of the *Christian*!

22. But what evidence have the great mass, whom you receive as members, that they are born again? Remember, sir, I do not question their honesty nor zeal. They are unquestionably sincere; and so are the Hindoo devotees who fall before the car of Juggernaut, and are in a moment launched into eternity, and the Romanist who confesses his sins to his Ghostly Father in this land of Bibles. Will you carefully peruse an article from Nova Scotia on the virtue of sincerity? This will save me the labour of writing any thing more on this subject. But to the question. How do you know, Sir, that you are born again? The question may be deemed invidious: but you are a public teacher, and should, therefore, be ever ready to give a reason of your hope. I have associated with Methodists; and although never a theoretical, yet for some time a practical Methodist; being a constant attendant of a “class meeting” for nearly a year, and therefore know what constitutes the evidence of regeneration, justification, &c. &c. And what are they? “A desire to flee from the wrath to come” gives the individual the privilege of meeting in the class, where he is prayed for, and exhorted to pray for himself until he is relieved from his burden and anxiety, or until he is converted. And how does he know this? Why, he *feels* peace of mind! Persons of warm and strong feelings will find peace in a short time, while others of a more calm and even temper will be weeks, months, and sometimes year seeking the Lord! I have always observed that the warmer the meeting, that is, the more exciting the prayers and exhortations, the sooner persons are said to be converted. This conversion is a conversion to Methodism, and it is something that takes place wholly in the individual’s own soul. He *feels* that he is a sinner, he *feels* that he believes, and he *feels* that he is born again! He trusts wholly to his feelings; and as I asked the Baptists, permit me now to ask the Wesleyans, through you, from whence then originate our feelings? From our hearts most assuredly. To say, then, we believe that we are born again because we *feel* thus and so, is to say, our hearts bear testimony