

nal redemption. His active as well as passive obedience is most freely given to poor sinners. He has fulfilled all righteousness for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. All that we have to do, is to lay hold of this righteousness by faith. And in that very moment, when we do apprehend it by a lively faith, in that very moment shall we be assured, that the blood of Jesus Christ has cleansed us from all sin. For the promise is to us, and to our children, and as many as the Lord our God shall call. If we, and our whole houses believe, we shall be saved as well as the jailor and his house; for the righteousness of Christ is an everlasting, as well as a perfect righteousness. It is as effectual to all them that believe in him now, as it was formerly, and so it will be till time shall be no more.

Search the scriptures, as the Bereans did, and see whether these things are not so. Search St. Paul's epistles to the Romans and Galatians, and there you will find this doctrine so plainly taught you, that unless you have eyes that see not, he that runs may read. Search the eleventh article of our church, and there you will find the opinion of our wise reformers in this matter; for thus speaks the article.—“We are accounted righteous before God, only for the merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by faith, and not for our own works or deservings.”

This doctrine of our free justification by faith in Christ Jesus, however censured and evil spoken of by our present masters in Israel, was highly esteemed by our wise fore-fathers. For, in the following words of the fore-mentioned article, it is called a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort; and so indeed it is, to all that are weary and heavy laden, and are truly willing to find rest in Jesus Christ.

This is gospel, this is glad tidings of great joy to all that feel themselves poor, lost, undone, damned sinners. Ho! every one that thirsteth, come unto the water of life, and drink freely: Come and buy without money and without price. Behold a fountain opened in your Saviour's side, for sin, and for all uncleanness. Look