

the living God, who is, and always will be, the author and finisher of it in every true believer.

The Friends, believing the Kingdom of Christ to be the reign of God in the soul, and that his baptism is not a material one, but a spiritual, being the substance typified by the diverse washings under the law, the water baptism not only by John, but by the Jews, and the Jewish feasts and sacrifices.

Christ came not into the world to destroy the Mosaic Law, or the testimonies of the prophets, but to fulfill them. John's baptism was that unto repentance—for what purpose, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Jesus, the Son of God, was to fulfill the old law or covenant, and to establish a new covenant, in the which he was to be the Redeemer and Saviour of mankind. The law requiring the offering of bulls, goats, lambs, doves, etc., the keeping of various feasts, were to be annulled. The priesthood, or those whose office was to communicate the will of God to his people, together with all the rites and ritualistic ceremonies of old Jewish hierarchy, were to be abolished.

God established, through his Son, a new law, or, as it appears to me, in some measure, renewed the old covenant which he had made with Adam, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, which was that being wrought upon by the baptising influence of the Holy Spirit; it was made possible for man to receive direct revelations of God's will concerning him. This view of the new, or Christ's covenant, makes plain the commission which he gave his Disciples, after they should have received power or knowledge from on high, "Go ye out and teach all nations, baptising them into the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." This baptism which they were charged with to use was Christ's, which was by the Holy Ghost and with fire, thus changing the will and desires of man, and the setting up of

Christ's Kingdom, which is the reign of God in the soul. It was often in the past, and is still asserted, that Friends do not believe in or teach the divinity of Christ. To any one who is so misinformed, I refer to the published literature of the Society. I will quote short extracts from a letter of George Fox to the Governor of Barbadoes: "Whereas many scandalous lies and slanders have been cast upon us to render us odious, as that we do deny God and Christ Jesus, and the Scriptures of Truth, etc., this is to inform you that all our books and declarations, which for these many years have been published to the world, do clearly testify the contrary; yet, notwithstanding, for your satisfaction, we do now plainly and sincerely declare, that we do own and believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God the Father, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary, in whom we have redemption in his blood, even the forgiveness of sin, and we do own and believe that he was a sacrifice for sin, who knew no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth, and that he was crucified for us in the flesh without the Gates of Jerusalem, and that he was buried and rose again the third day, by the power of his Father, for our justification; and we do believe that he ascended up into Heaven, and now sitteth at the right hand of God, and he is our Mediator that makes peace and reconciliation between God offended and us offending; He, being the oath of God, the new covenant of light, grace and peace, the author and finisher of our faith. Now, this Lord Jesus Christ, the heavenly man, the Emmanuel God with us, we all own and believe in; Him whom the priests and elders of Israel took council together against and put to death; the same whom Judas betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, which the priest gave him as the reward of his treason, and after he was risen from the dead, the history of the Acts of the Apostles sets forth