

"dead in trespasses and sins—walking according to the course of this world," and in its *pomps and vanity*, are consequently *confirmed in an unregenerate state*, and are admitted to the Lord's table, and addressed and treated as real Christians, what can be reasonably expected, but that they should be miserably deceived with the vain hope of heaven, while pursuing the broad road to destruction? This is a serious matter. Many evangelical Pedobaptists of different denominations, have expressed their conviction, that what they term "infant baptism" is frequently so relied on by those who have received it, as to prove dangerous and ruinous in the extreme.

*M. Blaise Pascal*, an eminently learned and pious Roman Catholic, born at Clermont, in Auvergne, in 1623, distinctly acknowledged, that infant baptism did not exist in the primitive Churches, but was subsequently introduced; and he deplored the sad consequences of this change. In his "Comparison of Ancient and Modern Christians," he says, "In the infancy of the Christian Church, we see no Christians but those who were thoroughly instructed in all matters necessary to salvation.—No one was admitted but after a most rigid examination; now every one is admitted before he is capable of being examined. Formerly it was necessary to come out from the world, in order to be received into the Church; whilst, in these days, we enter the church almost at the same time that we enter the world. Hence, it arises, that whilst the Christians then were all well instructed; now there are many in a fearful state of ignorance; then those who had been initiated into Christianity by baptism, and who had renounced the vices of the world, to embrace the piety of the Church, rarely declined again into the world; whilst now we commonly see the vices of the world in the hearts of Christians. The Church of the saints is defiled with the intermingling of the wicked.—