

herein instruction as to his spiritual health and regards it as inspired of God—"the power of God unto Salvation." Such a one will not treat the word of God lightly nor carelessly, but with reverence, and an earnest desire to profit by its teaching. He will not handle it profanely, as the manner of some is, nor forget its precepts so soon as he lays it down. Sir, righteousness, and judgment constitute the subject of his meditation. He craves deliverance from sin; the Holy Scriptures reveal to him that the only way to secure forgiveness is through a crucified Redeemer: he seeks righteousness and is there directed to the righteousness that cometh through faith; he desires to be shielded from the wrath, which conscience tells him he deserves, at the judgment to come, and is there instructed to the cross of Christ for deliverance from the wrath to come.

Considering then the subjects of which it treats, with what attention, diligence, and reverence should its sacred pages be perused.

We greatly fear that many families as well as individuals sadly neglect their duty in this respect. We do not speak in mere wantonness or censoriousness, we have too good ground for our fears. What hope humanly speaking can there be for those who neglect it. Grace will not come to moral idlers. We must use the means of grace. If we read it more carefully we would be more interested in it. Ignorance is the mother of lack of interest. How can I continue to be interested in what I know little or nothing about. It is our duty then to persevere in our reading and study of Scripture; not as some people of eccentric ways and perverted intelligence do for the purpose of getting hold of puzzles and riddles, thus profanely using the word of God and blinding their understandings as well as blunting their consciences, but for our edification in the

faith, our growth in grace, and our souls' salvation.

It has been the fate of some of our ministers on examining persons coming for baptism or to the Holy Communion to find such ignorance as to cause them to blush for very shame that christian people could possibly be so ignorant of the truths taught in the Bible. Especially is this the case, in the instance of some of those coming for baptism. They have read the New Testament 'or have heard it read frequently, but without attaching the slightest idea to its words, in other words have treated it profanely, as of no account. We mention these things in order to draw the attention of such persons to their great guilt and sin before God in misusing his gift, and endangering their own souls.

Lastly, for our subject is inexhaustible, those who value the Scriptures will teach and train their children to do likewise; not so much perhaps by mere precept, as by their example; for their children will see the faith and zeal of their parents—will see that they find strength and consolation in the word; and the faith and love of the parents will go down into the hearts of the children and they too will desire to obtain similar benefits. The good seed will fall, not into ignorant, stupid, and uncultivated minds, but into minds duly prepared for it. Thus are such parents twice blessed—blessed in themselves and blessed likewise in the blessedness they are the means of bestowing on their offspring.

FOREIGN MISSION.—The annual collection for the Foreign Mission is appointed by Presbytery to be made during the current quarter. One half of the amount contributed to this Scheme is granted to the Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, now labouring as Missionary in India, for the support of schools or native teachers; and the other half is given to Rev. Mr. Robertson, Missionary, labouring in Erromanga for a similar purpose.