

CONCLUSION.

AND now, my dear Reader, permit me to ask, in the words of our Lord to his disciples, "*Have you understood all these things?*" Have you repeatedly perused the whole of these First Principles of Religion, with that serious attention which their obvious importance deserves, which the authority of God demands, and which your own best interest requires? Have you formed in your mind a distinct apprehension of all the particulars that have been set before you, with their mutual connection together, as a religious system, and their relation to yourself? Are you prepared to shew that you have understood them, by giving an intelligible account of what you have read, to any one that may ask it of you? Or, have you hurried over the whole in a careless trifling manner, like the foolish scorner, who despises the most necessary instruction?

Permit me also to ask, whether you have judiciously and deliberately examined all the scripture references that have been produced in support of these principles? Have you received them with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily whether these things be so? What conclusion have you drawn? If your judgment be still undetermined, ought you not