

THE  
CHRISTIAN BANNER.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."  
"This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

VOL. VIII.

COBourg, NOVEMBER, 1854.

NO. 11.

THE RELIGION OF JESUS, NO. VI.

AFTER PRINCIPLES, No. 2.

To make a man loyal to the Lord, or convert him from an alien to a subject, is one thing—to keep him loyal, or preserve him as a subject by teaching and impressing upon him all his personal and relative duties, is another thing, quite as important and equally indispensable.

The preachers the Lord ordained eighteen hundred years ago, whether apostles or evangelists, bestowed more labour on the converted to perfect them in their profession than on sinners to instruct and convert them. One discourse or a single interview oftentimes sufficed to enlighten men in the Lord's means of forgiveness—witness the converts on the birth-day of christianity in old Jerusalem, and the Ethiopian treasurer, and the jail keeper at Philippi, and others; but these new scholars of Jesus were taught to spend their lives in perfecting themselves as learners, lovers, and imitators of the Lord Messiah.

The religion of Jesus, in its first principles, introduces a man to the Saviour and leads him rejoicingly into the sanctuary of the saved, and the religion of Jesus in its after principles, gradually yet constantly moulds him in the Saviour's own likeness, making him day by day richer in the love, inspiring knowledge and bliss-imparting favor of the Author of Eternal Life, thus fashioning him in the Divine image and modelling him according to it as fast as he is capable of being made like it.

A list of the more prominent lessons the Christian disciple is called upon to learn and guide himself by, are traced out in a brief summary thus—

1. Love of the Lord's people, or brotherly love.
2. Meekness, kindness, peace, a most estimable group.