

"*saved*," i. e., unless he joins the "Brethren," and *after* he is saved repentance is unnecessary. Now here is an easy question in logic. Repentance is impossible *before* salvation and unnecessary afterwards. Therefore there is no such thing as repentance.

According to this, if a man comes to me and says (as I have had them say before now), "Sir, I have been a wicked man all my days, but I wish to do better, what can I do?" I am to say to him, "You can't do anything; you must simply fold your arms, stand still and see the salvation of God." And if he should say, "Can't I pray, Sir? Were I to do this, do you think God would hear me? Will he forgive me if I ask him?" I am to say, "No you can't pray! A man like you pray! You have just said you are a wicked sinner and God *hears not prayer from such as you*. You can't pray, and therefore you can't repent." And there I am to leave him, and what is the poor man to do?

Now such is the doctrine which has been taught by these revival preachers. As I said they have no written creed that I can appeal to to prove it, so I must be content with their assertions. An investigation was held not long ago by the authorities of the Presbyterian Church, at Guelph, when evidence was given that two of these revival preachers used such expressions as these, "Unconverted sinner, *I implore you not to pray*." "Except a man was *certain of salvation* his prayer was only *laughter for devils*," and that another declared that "to tell the unconverted to pray was the biggest lie ever forged on the devil's anvil." *

I am sorry the "brethren" do not choose better or more moderate language in which to express their opinions, for such sentences as the above are as shocking for you to hear as they are for me to utter; but I want to shew that I am not making these statements at random, but that I know what I say.

Now, my brethren, there is the first point which I characterize as pernicious heresy, because it is contrary to God's Word, as I shall shew by-and-by. How can men who profess to have an undying love for their fellow-creatures propound such a cold, forbidding doctrine? They profess, indeed, great reverence for our good Master, the Lord Jesus Christ; but they do not imitate him in his great sympathy for the fallen sinner. They do not imitate Him who carefully carried out what Isaiah had written of Him, "a bruised reed shall he not break and smoking flax shall he not quench." They do not imitate Him who said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out," for how is a poor sinner to come except with the tears of repentance and the prayer of hope?

* See "Broken Reeds," by Rev. E. H. Dewar.