

are pure, that it is the glory of God, and the interest of his cause they have at heart, when pride, envy, and jealousy lie at the bottom of all they say and do. Even the pure in heart, will have enough to do to keep themselves pure. The religion and morals of Paganism were quite consistent with, nay encouraged and patronized, this love of pre-eminence, insomuch that "a strife for mastery," in all their games and pursuits in peace and war, was most manifest. Their historians and poets, their painters and sculptors, published and extolled, celebrated and gave a sort of immortality to the successful aspirant, which in turn inflamed the ardor and fired the ambition of others. The consequences were, pride and all the warring passions of their nature were let loose and stimulated to the utmost, and the very gods indeed are supposed to be delighted with the contest, insomuch that envy, rage, malevolence, with all their consequences, filled the world.

The world could not possibly be reformed without a religion essentially different, which should cut off the very root of all those principles of action, and institute others, which should implant, cherish, and cultivate to perfection, the opposite of the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eye, and the pride or ambition of the world.

Christianity is the only system of religion and morals, that *can* bless the human race. Instead of pride, humility, instead of envy, esteem for others, instead of hatred and revenge gentleness, brotherly kindness and benevolence.

The gospel reveals to us the true state and condition of mankind, *i. e.* all guilty before God. With all their boasted attainments, discoveries, and improvements, their wisdom, learning, arts, pleasures and religion, *all wrong*, ignorant, false, vain, destructive to man, offensive to God, without God, without hope, lost. At the same time, the companion of the everlasting God, His truth, justice and mercy revealed in the sacrificing for our sins his only begotten Son, the humbling, repenting and submitting of ourselves to him, the infallible assurance of forgiveness, of resurrection and eternal life, and his eternal love, and the eternal condemnation of all who neglect the gospel, the whole sustained by miracles, signs, wonders and prophecies, addressed to the senses and reason of mankind, calling for immediate submission. Such a Proclamation honestly heeded, could not fail to reform the human race. Nothing else could do it. Hence the gospel, and nothing but the gospel, is "the power of God to the salvation of all who *really* believe it." 'Tis this and only this that makes man to know himself,—his origin, destiny, nature, relations, wants, wounds, sorrows and remedies. 'The value his Maker sets upon him, the vanity of the world and all its ambition and pomp, how empty and foolish its pleasures, how good and gracious is the Lord, how kind and gentle the Saviour, how dignified, majestic, powerful, rich and glorious, till his heart delighted and his soul enraptured with the love and philanthropy of the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, he is reconciled in feeling, and obeys from the heart the gospel, being then free from sin, he is a child of God, an heir of glory; his spirit is full of joy abounding in all compassion to man his fellow.