

Unless Christ be thus in you, notwithstanding you may be orthodox as to the foregoing principles, notwithstanding you may have good desires, and attend constantly on the means of grace, yet, in St. Paul's opinion, you are out of a state of salvation. Know ye not, says the apostle to the Corinthians, a church famous for its gifts, above any church under heaven, that Christ is in you, viz., by his spirit, unless you are reprobates?

For Christ came not only to deliver us from the guilt, but also from the power of our sins. Till he has done this, however he may be a saviour to others, we can have no assurance or well-grounded hope that he has saved us. For it is by receiving his blessed spirit into our hearts, and hearing him witnessing with our spirits, that we can be certified of our being sealed unto the day of redemption.

This, it must be confessed, is a great mystery; but marvel not at my asking you, what you think of Christ being formed within you? for either God must change his nature or ours. For, as in Adam we all have spiritually died, so all that are effectually saved, must by Christ, be spiritually made alive. His only end in dying and rising again, and interceding for us now in heaven, is to redeem us from the misery of our fallen nature, and, by the operations of his blessed spirit, to make us meet to be partakers of the heavenly inheritance with the saints in light. None but those that are thus changed by his grace here, shall appear with him in glory hereafter.

Examine yourselves therefore, my brethern, whether you are in the faith; prove your own selves, and think it not sufficient to say in your creed, I believe in Jesus Christ, for you do not believe; you are liars, you are reprobates, you are in a state of death, you take God's name in vain, and, when you call him Father, your prayers are turned into sin, unless you believe in Christ, so as to have your life and nourishment from him as the branches receive life and nourishment from the vine, or the members of the body natural from the head.

I know, indeed, the men of this generation deny