

Redeemer. Must not our Offences and Transgressions therefore be more heinous, more aggravated than theirs?

As Baptism thus represents our Profession, and it is the Duty of those who are baptized, to follow the Example of Christ, and be made like unto him: So this is also essentially necessary to their Happiness. The Almighty hath inseparably connected our Duty with our Happiness; so that when we depart from the one, we destroy the other. The Almighty's Injunctions are wisely founded on the Nature of Things---his Commandments are not grievous or unreasonable. He calls us to Holiness; because without Holiness no Man can see the Lord, or be happy with him. In order to enjoy the Bliss of Heaven, we must have a Disposition and Temper fitted for it. For how could a Soul which is under the Dominion of Sin, and averse to the Ways, the Laws and Service of God, be happy in his Presence? What is there in Heaven suited to the Disposition of such a Soul? Alas! Heaven would yield it no Joy; nor would the Company of Angels, and the Spirits of just Men made perfect, afford it any Pleasure. There can be no pleasing Intercourse or Fellowship between intelligent Beings which are opposite in their Nature, Temper, Disposition and Desires.

Hear on this Subject, the pious and animated Bishop Hall---“Wherein stands Happiness, *says he*, if not in “our near Resemblance of Christ? Why was Man “created happy, but because in God’s Image? The “Glory of Paradise, the Beauty of his Body, the Duty “of the Creatures, could not give him Felicity, without the Likeness to his Creator. Behold, what we “lost in our Neglect, we recover in our Misery; a “Conformity to the Image of the Son of God: He “that is not like his Elder Brother, shall never be “Heir with him.”

This being the Case, the Christian should daily strive to grow in Grace, and in the Knowledge of the Lord