

Is not Forgiveness of Sins, as a peculiar privilege, interwoven with the texture of the whole of the New Testament? not as a thing in *possession* but as a *privilege to be sought for*. Not as a something *already* in the possession of Sinners, or men in general—but held forth as a *Good* to be prayed for, and only obtained by those who believe in Christ “with the heart unto Righteousness” declaring that its real possessors, invariably bring forth holy fruits of love to God, and love to man—fulfilling the Royal law “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God—and, thy neighbour as thyself.”

3dly. It is a Blasphemy against The Truth of God! Men who enjoy *forgiveness of Sins*, are represented in Scripture as enjoying fellowship with God—as being led by His Spirit—as being united to Christ, even as the branch is united to the parent Vine. Now a *State of forgiveness* implies all this—yet Irvingism asserts that this is the State of *every man*! But the Scriptures say, that, God is Holy—Separate from Sinners—that, He cannot look upon sin with any degree of allowance. Irvingism goes to say, that men in a state of sin have fellowship with a Holy God! and *that*, while in a State of actual rebellion against him! Irvingism goes to say, that, there is fellowship between Christ and Bellal—between light and darkness—THE TRUTH OF GOD says to man, in order that they may have fellowship with him “Repent and turn” —“Put away the evil of your doings”—“Cease to do evil”—“Humble yourselves before the sight of the Lord”—“Though I am the High and Lofly one—yet—~~that~~ man will I look (and to him only) who is of a broken and a contrite Spirit”—God invites such (and such only) to come to him for mercy.—God says, “Come and let us reason together—though your sins are as scarlet, they shall be (not—they are) white as snow: and though they be red like crimson, they shall become (not,—they are already) as wool.” It is said David confessed his sin unto the Lord, and *then*, (not, before) “God forgave the iniquity of his sin.”

Irvingism not only represents God and Christ as having fellowship with the unfruitful works of Darkness—the unholy and the profane—but—it charges God and Christ with *folly*!—with needless, useless, foolish acting. God says “Return ye backsliding children—I will heal your backslidings.” But Irvingism says “This is a *foolish* invitation, and a *needless* cure!”—that—“all men are already in a state of forgiveness, therefore, there can be no necessity for their return or cure—for—that they *are returned and healed already*!”—Jesus Christ says to the woman in the Gospel “Thy sins are forgiven—thy faith hath saved thee—go in peace.” Irvingism says Jesus Christ was a fool—that he made a vain boast of *now* doing what had been done *already*—that the woman already stood in a *state of forgiveness*—that there was therefore neither use nor necessity in, or for our Lord’s act!!!

Irvingism says the framer and maker of the Lord’s prayer was a fool!—Irvingism says that Christ *foolishly* taught us in that prayer to say “*Forgive us our trespasses*.” “Not so! Not so!”—Says Irvingism—“Not so! Jesus Christ”—“You ought to come again upon the Earth—you ought to visit London—you ought there to visit and assemble with the Head Quarters of our Church—*There*, Jesus Christ, you would have been taught more perfectly—*There*, Jesus Christ, you would hear our *infallible* ‘voice of Prophecy,’ rising from the midst of our prostrate Elders and crying All men’s sins are already forgiven!—All men—Harlots, Publicans, and Thieves—all—are in a *state of forgiveness*!”—Irvingism says—“Go, Jesus Christ, alter your absurd prayer—strike out that absurd petition which prays for *forgiveness*—It is a needless, useless, and therefore, a *foolish* petition!” surely, this is horrid Blasphemy.

And yet, is not this the plain, deductible language of Irvingism? And is not this a blasphemy against the *Holiness* and *Wisdom* of the Truth of God?---