

5. In completing that which he has begun. He has counted the cost, laid the foundation and begun the good the great work of preparing the soul to glorify God here, and to enjoy him through an endless hereafter. Shall he bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? Shall he cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? Has he laid the foundation and is not able to finish it? Has he begun the good work and will he not perform it until the day of Jesus? Is. lxvi. 9 : Luke xiv. 28, 29 : Phil. i. 6.

Such, dear brethren, we believe to be the doctrine of the bible upon this subject; and, in conclusion, we would direct your attention to a few inferences which naturally arise therefrom. The subject we have contemplated suggests one great and glorious idea, that there is a Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit, and that the Holy Spirit is the third person in the Godhead, equal with the Father and with the Son; filling his place and doing his part, equally concerned in creation, in providence, and in redemption, with the Father and with the Son.

It is evident, then, that without him there could be no creation, Gen. i. 2. Without him there could be no Saviour provided for fallen, lost and ruined man, Luke i. 35. And without him there could be no regeneration, no sanctification, no redemption. John iii. 3, 5 : 1 Cor. i. 30. That no flesh should glory in his presence. That according as it is written, he that glorieth let him glory in the Lord. 1 Cor. i. 3.

That it is the privilege, the blood-bought privilege, yea, the bounden duty of all who are born of him, to have him dwelling in their hearts, yea, to be filled with him. Under his saving and enlightening influence, the scriptures shall be clearly understood, the testimony which God has given heartily believed and firmly relied upon. God the Father and God the Son supremely loved, and the Truth, the mind of God revealed to man exemplified and reduced into practice. Under his influence the people of God see eye to eye, feel as the mystical body of Christ for their glorious, their exalted head; pity, compassionate and love precious and immortal souls; and are knowing, wise, prudent, and judicious to adopt means and measures for the advancement of the cause of God on the earth.

Permit us, then, dear brethren, to urge upon you the necessity of encouraging in your minds a lively and cheering expectation of the powerful influences of the Spirit of God. Let us implore those influences for ourselves, who profess to be ministers of the Gospel