

FIFTH DAY.



ABIDE IN CHRIST,

As you came to Him, by Faith.

'As ye have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye IN HIM: rooted and built up IN HIM, and stablished in the faith, abounding therein.'—COL. ii. 6, 7.

IN these words the apostle teaches us the weighty lesson, that it is not only by faith that we first come to Christ and are united to Him, but that it is by faith that we are to be rooted and established in our union with Christ. Not less essential than for the commencement, is faith for the progress of the spiritual life. Abiding in Jesus can only be by faith.

There are earnest Christians who do not understand this; or, if they admit it in theory, they fail to realize its application in practice. They are very zealous for a free gospel, with our first acceptance of Christ, and justification by faith alone. But after this they think everything depends on our diligence and faithfulness. While they firmly grasp the truth, 'The sinner shall be justified by faith,' they have hardly found a place in their scheme for the larger truth, 'The just shall *live* by faith.' They have never