

Christ in person to this earth again in one which the Apostle Peter predicts will be especially ridiculed in these last days. "There shall come in the last days scoffers, saying, Where is the promise of His coming, for since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." "But the day of the Lord will come," notwithstanding all their scorn and unbelief."

All things point to the nearness of Christ's Second Coming. The particular day and hour is unknown, but the signs of the present times all concur in indicating it to be fast approaching and very near at hand. Christ desires His speedy personal return, and not for death. Nor should we look forward to the Judgment Day as a time when we shall be arrayed as criminals at a tribunal bar, for the judgment of the saints will only be a recompensatory one to adjudicate among them their respective rewards.

Four Judgments may be distinguished,—

- 1st. The Judgment of our sins at Calvary.
- 2nd. The Judgment Seat of Christ at His Second Coming, before which the saints of the First Resurrection must all appear, to be rewarded according to their works, before they reign with Him over the converted nations of the earth during the 1,000 years of the Millennium (2 Corinthians. v. 10. Revelation xx. 4-6).
- 3rd. The Judgment of living nations at His Second Coming (Joel iii. 12).
- 4th. The Judgment of the Great White Throne at the end of the Millennium (Revelation xx. 7-15).

To the Editor of the Monthly Record.

SIR,—You have asked me to furnish an article on what subject I please for next issue. Suppose that I furnish a few prayers to guide devotion in the family and in the congregation. Your devout readers may judge how far they are a help; in that case, more may follow; otherwise these shall be the last.

Yours truly, H.

We shall commence

AN ADDRESS ON DEVOTION.

Prayer has been called the "vital breath of the soul," without prayer our

spirit dies. Unquestionably it is the duty of all men to pray. Their relation to God, their constant wants, as well as the command of scripture oblige them to this duty. If we pray not, we sin, merit the divine anger, and fall under the recorded malediction. "Pour out thy breath upon the Heathen and upon the families that call not upon thy name" of course, this is not a state to live in, much less to die in, therefore the sooner the prayerless call upon God the better; Yet numbers in town and country, live without prayer: you erect no altar, you call not upon Him who protects, guards and blesses you. You ask not and therefore possess not. A variety of excuses you allege. With some, it is *want of ability*. Were this offered in sincerity, it would soon be removed. Help would be sought and prayer would follow. But you stir not yourselves up but remain listless and unconcerned, and therefore are strangers to prayer. But will it be always so with you, will you never pray? Yes. You will call when it will be too late (Rev. VI: 16), and pray when He will not hear, (Prov. I: 27), for then your opportunities are over. Then shut not out the call. "Arise and cry to God that ye perish not." There is little reason to doubt that were persons but honestly to try they would get over their difficulties as to prayer. Yet some need help for such are the few following prayers designed, and they help by *suggesting thought and exciting feeling*. Some may say that prayer is taught by the Holy spirit, (Rom. VIII: 36), and that is true yet must we pray with the understanding, (1 Cor XIV: 15), and therefore meditate before hand what we are to say. The psalms, so universally suitable, comprise the material; and meditation with a relentive memory, will help to utter addresses at the throne