

*in Christendom during the whole of the Christian era -*

A SIMPLE INTERPRETATION

~~tions~~) should serve to render the light of truth as conspicuous as possible.<sup>1</sup>

By Jesus being represented "in the midst of the seven candlesticks" is signified his continual presence among his people, and watchful care over them. "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them," were his words to his disciples while he was yet their visible companion and teacher; and after that he had ascended to heaven, and many spirits were made his angels (or messengers and ministers to execute his will),<sup>2</sup> it was as easy for him to attend to all the requirements of his faithful followers, as it is for an ordinary man to attend to a few candlesticks.

Jesus is represented as being "clothed with a garment down to the foot," to signify his perfect righteousness;<sup>3</sup> and his being "girt about the paps with a golden girdle," signifies that he is (in the expressive language of Scripture) "girt about with truth."<sup>4</sup> His perfect purity is signified by "his head and his hairs" being "white like wool, as white as snow;"<sup>5</sup> and his

<sup>1</sup> Ye are the *light* of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a *candlestick*; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. *Let your light so shine before men*, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.—Matt. v. 14-16.

<sup>2</sup> And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne, and of the four living creatures (*ζώνων*), and in the midst of the elders, stood a *Lamb* as it had been slain, *having seven horns, and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth*.—Rev. v. 6.

<sup>3</sup> Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled *their garments*; and *they shall walk with me in white*: for they are worthy.—Rev. iii. 4. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for *the fine linen is the righteousness of saints*.—Rev. xix. 8.

<sup>4</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins *girt about with truth*, and having on the breastplate of righteousness.—Eph. vi. 14.

<sup>5</sup> Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: *though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool*.—Isa. i. 18.