

## TWO MESSAGES FROM GOD.

I JOHN, ii, 12 ; v, 13.

I SUPPOSE every one of my readers has received a letter at least once in his or her life-time, and if it came from some one in whom you had confidence, you would have had faith in all it contained, and the effect produced upon you by that letter would have been in accord with its contents, you would have been rejoiced at the good news and distressed by the bad which it brought to you.

But suppose that some one receives a letter from a king, from an emperor, or from some other personage of high rank. What honour! As it came to be spoken of in the family, and as the report spread abroad outside, with what carefulness the precious bit would be preserved.

Now, I would ask you : Have you ever received a letter from God ? I have received two, and would like to tell you a little about them.

This is the first: "I write unto you, children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake."

Whom does He address ? Children, that is to say the children of God, and this expression embraces the *fathers*, the *young men*, and the *little children* in Christ. It is one great family. All are children from the eldest to the youngest, but all are not little children.

God then addresses this first letter to His children. Are you one of His children ? Do you enquire :

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