

THE BIBLE AND WINE.

What is the Bible doctrine respecting *wine*? Does it commend, or prohibit its use? May we by its authority, drink intoxicating liquors, or are we commanded to abstain? These are questions of no slight importance. They are intimately connected with the peace of society, the progress of Christianity, and the well being of the world. They demand therefore, of every Bible reader, an earnest and careful investigation.

It is our opinion, and it will be our object in this brief address, to show, that the Bible when properly interpreted is a *Total Abstinence Book*. It gives no permission, or authority whatever for the use of alcoholic liquors, as a beverage. No doubt some will be astonished that such a statement should be made, for either their attention has not been directed to this subject, or they have read the Bible in a very different light.

"To the Law then and to the Testimonies." These alone can decide the question; and if any man speak not according to these. "It is because there is no light in him."

I—The first fact to be observed is *that the Bible unquestionably speaks very differently of wine.*