

h faith in Christ, are
 nce of his Spirit.
 y undergo a change
 They become "new
 the former conver-
 according to the de-
 spirit of their mind,
 God is created in
 Of him," writes the
 ve in Christ Jesus,
 righteousness, and

possession of a holy
 one that calls for
 he Saviour. They
 ould rather indulge
 re these quenched.
 t its gratifications
 death." They do
 long for deliver-
 natefulness. But,
 of all blessings.
 od himself could
 s holy. His own
 perfection of his
 ssed as he is, we
 rs by whom this
 ment of gratitude
 souls have been
 heartfelt feeling,
 only washed out
 sentence of con-
 but also washed
 n they were de-
 ever and ever!"

No doubt, much sin remains in the best of God's people here. They themselves acknowledge and lament the fact: witness the exclamation of the apostle Paul, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Still, they may be described as washed from sin, even in the sense of being freed from its influence, inas-much as their characters, though not perfect, are essentially holy. They are not the willing slaves of iniquity in any of its forms. It may obtain occasional victories over them; but they do not cordially bow their necks to its yoke. They have had the good work of sanctification begun in them; accompanied with the assurance that it shall be carried forward by the same grace which has commenced it, till they are at last rendered pure as Christ is pure. You may see a picture of their condition in the partially-cleared fields which present themselves to view in every part of a country like this,—fields in the transition state, from wild and unbroken forest to land thoroughly reclaimed and cultivated. The trees have fallen beneath the hatchet of the labourer. The yokes of oxen have drawn the timber off; and what was once a useless wilderness, is now planted with valuable grain. But the change is only half accomplished. The burnt and blackened stumps of old hemlocks and pines are left, cumbering the ground, and impairing its fertility; and the wheat grows with comparative sparseness in the intervals between them. At the same time, every season loosens the hold which these have upon the soil. They are year by year hastening to decay; and the traveller who shall pass along the road a few summers hence, will perceive no trace of their having ever existed. So the work of sanctification has been commenced in the soul of the Christian; and commenced never to be abandoned till it is perfected. Sin no longer is master of him as it used to be. The cor-ruptions, that raised their heads in uncontrolled rankness, have received their death-blow. They have been hewn