

JESUS—Able to make him stand.

Rom. xiv. 4.

he is a Christian; for, *simple faith and nothing else* makes a Christian: all else, drill, armour, service, knowledge, are only accessories that help to make the man a more efficient and valuable soldier of the Cross.

WHY ARE MEN PUT INTO GAOL?

NOT because of a life of wickedness, but for some one wrong act or deed. They broke the law once, and perhaps only for a few minutes; but for that they have to suffer years afterwards. No one considers it a violation of justice so to punish.

Men are punished by God, not because they have led a wicked life, but for the one continuous sin of UNBELIEF in the Christ of God. "He that believeth on him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already."

God does not say he that liveth a good life here shall have eternal life hereafter; but he plainly shows that a person's safety or ruin turns on the acceptance or rejection of Christ Jesus, the sacrifice and atonement that he has made.

It necessarily follows, however, that he who accepts Christ has to obey Christ. Faith in Christ is proved by works for Christ.

He who says "I believe," and yet lives in sin, is "a liar, and the truth is not in him."

ETERNITY—what a word! The longest river has an end. The broadest ocean has a shore, but *eternity* is an ocean without a shore. Since we must embark on that ocean, how important that we should be prepared!

SPIRITUAL BAROMETER:

A SCALE OF THE PROGRESS OF SIN AND OF GRACE.

The reader must peruse this from the Middle, upwards or downwards, until he perceive the degree at which he now stands.

GLORY.

- 70 Dismissal from the body.
- Desiring to depart and be with Christ.
- Patience in tribulation.
- 60 Ardent love for souls.
- Zeal in doing good.
- Delight in walking with God
- 50 Deadness to the world.
- Communion with Christ.
- Love of God in the heart.
- 40 Meetings for prayer, &c.
- Vain company wholly dropped.
- Love to the people of God.
- 30 Love of God's Word established.
- Scripture light increased.
- Frequent attendance on means of grace.
- 20 Retirement for meditation
- Sanctification. Holiness.
- Belief of the truth.
- 10 Daily perusal of the Bible.
- Alarm Conviction Concern.

INDIFFERENCE.

- Family worship only occasionally.
- 10 Private prayer omitted.
- Family religion given up.
- Levity in conversation.
- 20 Fashions, however expensive, adopted.
- Luxurious entertainments.
- Get hardened under Gospel sermons.
- 30 Run after 'intellectual' preachers.
- Free association with the worldly.
- Private prayer thrown aside.
- 40 Love of Novels and Romances.
- Frequent parties of pleasure.
- Theatres, Balls, Races, Circus, etc.
- 50 Taking God's name in vain.
- House of God forsaken. Infidelity.
- Increased desire for strong drink.
- 60 Ungodly company prized. Profaneness.
- Parties of pleasure on the Lord's day.
- Scoffing at Religion. Persecuting the godly.
- 70 Disease and Death.

PERDITION.

JESUS—Able to keep you from falling.

Jude 24.