

"They err, who tell us that the spirit unclothed,
And from its mortal tabernacle loosed,
Has neither lineament of countenance,
Nor limit of ethereal mould or form of spiritual substance," *

And this is confirmed by Scripture, for Samuel's disembodied spirit appeared, was recognized, and spake to Saul. 1 Sam. 28. 14. Further confirmation is also found in Luke 9. 28-36. Where the three Apostles saw and knew Moses speaking with our Lord on the Mount of Transfiguration; and it is but a sober deduction from this and the Lord's peace giving promise to the thief on the cross, that not only was he with the Lord but that he saw Him and knew Him; for would it not fall far short of the full comfort which our Lord's words were calculated to give the dying thief, if he was not with Him, to see Him, and to know Him? To be with Him and not know it; to be with Him and not see Him would be inadequate to the Lord's promise.

This is not all by any means which Scripture has to say on the subject and lest it be objected by some doubting heart, that the Scriptures which refer to the recognition of Samuel and Moses, do but prove that disembodied spirits were seen and recognized by men in the flesh, but leave untouched the question whether spirits can recognize each other before being "clothed upon with our house which is from heaven," we will enter upon a further consideration of the subject.

In the narrative of the rich man and Lazarus, in the 16th of Luke, which some think is a parable, but which appears rather to be a statement of events which had already transpired, we have the Lord drawing aside the curtain and giving a glimpse of the

* Bickersteth's "Yesterday, To-day, and Forever."