THE GLEANER.

Our great lesson to learn is to let Him do for us, to not depend on ourselves but wholly on Him. We are to know our own weakness more thoroughly, to learn the power of His strength, that nothing is too hard for Him. That when He seems to be wholly hidden, He is really working the most effectively to answer our prayers, and in His own due time it will be made known.— We cannot think too little of ourselves, nor too much of the grace of God.—I. W. NEWTON.

WALKING TOGETHER.

There are some truths which a true Christian holds, that are so interwoven with the very fibres of his being that he cannot possibly give them up.

You believe in God—a personal God—a God whom you call Father; a God who has eyes to see, a heart to pity, and hands to help. A scientific person comes to you, saying, "I also believe in God; an all-pervading force, a something-not-ourselves that makes for righteousness, the essence of things. Why, then, can we not walk together?" And what can you answer? "Nay, friend, there is a great gulf between us. I am firmly wedded to my faith in a personal 'God."

You believe in Jesus Christ as the manifestation of God. He is the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of His Person.— He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father. He is very God of very God. A Unitarian friend appeals to you : "Why should we not walk together? I also believe in Christ; He was the

noblest man that ever lived. Shall we not, then, walk together ?"— What can you say? "No; we differ at the vital point. The divinity of Jesus Christ is everything. It is the root and foundation of all. I cannot surrender it for friendship's sake."

You believe in the Bible ; you have taken it as your only and infallible rule of faith and practice; you say it is the Word of God. A friend who favors the higher criticism comes to you and says, "I too believe in the Bible; not as a true book, indeed; but as a book true in spots. Why should we part company on this matter ?" What must you answer ? Tell him that the Bible is the true witness of Jesus Christ, and that a man, therefore, cannot part company with the Bible and keep company with Christ. Tell him that the Bible is inspired, it is "God-breathed," and that God could not have breathed a lie.

You believe in Justification by Faith. A rationalistic friend says, "What difference does it make?— There's some good in all religions. Let us hope we will get together at heaven's gate." Tell him there is only one way that leads to heaven, the royal way of the cross. "For there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."—B.

God gives up the world to perdition with great reluctance. He has always said that He has no pleasure in the death of the wicked; and we thus behold Him true to His word up to the last.

143