

to the Gentiles is far too rare among modern Christians,—“ I am crucified with Christ : nevertheless I live : yet not I, but Christ liveth in me ; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” There is too little living with God in the closet : too little walking with him in life’s busy scenes. We profess to believe in the knowledge of salvation by the remission of sins ;—the witness of the Spirit, of our adoption into the heavenly family ;—the entire sanctification of our nature—body, spirit, soul ;—and that we may be preserved in such a state of perfected holiness “ unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Let us, then, “ go on unto perfection ;” and seek and obtain those higher blessings of light, purity, and joy, purchased by the blood of the everlasting covenant. It is from the inward, spiritual life ; that the holy obedience of the Christian flows ; and all the virtues which adorn the child of God, and which, together with the “ work of faith and labour of love,” mark him a power of holy influence in the church and the world, proceed from the same fountain. Oh ! then, live in constant communion with the Saviour, that his grace may be in you, “ as a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

Next to personal holiness, the importance of *family* religion presses itself on our attention. The family is an institution of God. It is intended to subserve important purposes in the destiny of the human race. He who has placed us in families, has wisely ordained that parents should “ command their children, and household after them ; that they may keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment.” Like Joshua, then, resolve that, “ as for you and your house, you will serve the Lord.” If, as one has remarked, a well-trained family is the best legacy that a parent can leave to the world, train up your children “ in the way in which they should go,” being assured by the word of inspiration that when they are “ old they will not depart from it.” Let the services at our domestic altars be conducted in such a spirit and manner that they may be seasons of hallowed enjoyment,