

S E R M O N .

“ God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.—ST. JOHN, iv. 24.

EVERY enquiry which relates to man's communion with his Maker—to the Christian's filial access to Him who is our Father in Christ—must of necessity possess for us a very deep interest, and demand of us most serious attention. And if, at times, such enquiries present themselves accompanied by perturbing and perplexing circumstances—by occasions for alarm and disquietude, yet ought we not to doubt that He, whose wisdom still educes good out of evil, may be, for very excellent ends, forcing upon us a more searching examination into principles and rules of action, in respect of which we have, perchance, hitherto been content to be but superficially informed.

The great truth which our blessed Lord declares in the text is one which none among us will dispute; existing differences concern the *mode* in which spiritual worship is to be fostered and strengthened. And, again, the history of the past—the experience of the present—alike teach