

fact that Christ died for the salvation of sinners.

Under the first head, we have a brief and judicious exposition of the satisfaction of Christ to the law, by his obedience and death; and this, in so far as the announcement of the topic goes, constitutes the matter of Gospel preaching. But, who does not see that this is a very meagre account of it? And, were it not that we find in another part of the discourse an enumeration and illustration of the kindred and subordinate truths which are implied in the atonement, we should pronounce the discourse to be defective in something more important than the mere arrangement of its materials. Under the first and fifth subdivisions of the second head, Mr. George shews, that "the doctrine of Christ Crucified ought to be preached in all its parts," and made "the central point in the pulpit labours" of the Christian Minister; and, much of what he has there stated, ought undoubtedly to have been introduced under the first head—the explanation of the grand theme of Apostolical preaching. The second division of the discourse is, we think, the better portion of it. His remarks under this division are thus distributed—*First*, the doctrine of "Christ Crucified," ought to be preached in all its parts. *Secondly*, with great plainness. *Thirdly*, with great earnestness and courage. The announcement of the *Fourth* subdivision, which is in these words, "courage is also necessary for preaching Christ Crucified, aright," shews that the words *and courage* should have been erased from the preceding one. Under the *Fifth*, it is stated, that Christ Crucified must be made the central point in all our pulpit labours. And under the *Sixth*, that the doctrine must be preached with a firm reliance on the aid of the Holy Spirit. But we must let our author

speak for himself; and those of our readers who have not seen the sermon, will not complain though we make one or two lengthened extracts. The remarks on the preaching of the doctrine of Christ Crucified in all its parts, misplaced though some of them appear to us to be, are very excellent. Having adverted to the sad fact, that the Gospel, supremely interesting and important as it is, is yet in a vast multitude of cases listened to without any emotion, our author thus proceeds:

"It is at least worthy of serious enquiry, whether this may not in part be owing to the manner in which it is presented by us before the minds of our people. By overlooking, or but partially bringing into view certain of the doctrines, may not our discourses become feeble, and what we say be confused; or what is worse, end in mere declamation. Now, the evil is not that truth is not uttered—but it is truth without connection or sequence; and of course, it neither affects the understanding nor the heart. A point of the sun seen, and but a few rays felt, can neither produce admiration nor warmth.

But preachers are not to blame wholly for this partial view, which is sometimes given of divine truth. If I do not greatly mistake, they are occasionally influenced to take this very meagre course by the cant or clamour of certain persons from whom better things might be expected. The opinion of the pious portion of a congregation has great weight with a minister. But it must not be concealed, that these persons are not always as wise as they are sincere. What we have heard to-day, say they, of the guilt and depravity of man—of the claims of the Divine law—or of the justice or holiness of God—or of the Divinity of Christ, was all well enough, but it was not what we want—we want to hear the Gospel, and this is not Gospel preaching. Ignorant inference!—harsh surmise!—but often sufficient to stagger the better judgment, and pain exceedingly the feelings of a pious Minister. By "the Gospel," these persons just mean one thing—the passion of Christ. Hence, to please them, the whole mediatorial work must be narrowed down to a single point. They see not, that their favourite theme depends for all its grandeur, when discussed, on a clear conception of other truths, which when brought forward, they are ready to