

Now, behold how completely, as the glove to the hand, the remedy is adapted to the disease! By faith the love of sin is destroyed; by repentance the practice, by baptism the state; by pardon the guilt; by the Holy Spirit the power; and by the resurrection the punishment.

FIRST. *Faith destroys the love of sin.* But as there has been much difficulty and controversy in the religious world relative to faith, we ask, by what kind of faith is the love of sin destroyed? *Ans.* by that kind of faith which "comes by hearing the word of the Lord;" "which works by love" and "purifies the heart." The person who has this faith, has received not only the truth, but "the love of the truth that he might be saved." He has "believed with his *heart* unto righteousness;" and "has believed with *all his heart.*" The faith that destroys the love of sin, is not a mere speculative figment floating in some upper region of the brain, leaving the heart as cold as ice! It grasps both the head and the heart of the believer! It captivates the whole soul. It conquers the love of sin by the Grace of God, and the blood of the everlasting covenant, and gives the victory over the world, the flesh and the Devil! Any faith that does not thus affect us, is of no utility. The christian religion claims for its own legitimate subjects, both the heads and the hearts of all whom it recognizes as christians; the head as the seat of intellect, and the heart as the organ of the moral feelings. It will, therefore, appropriate both, or neither. Hence, we affirm that we believe in both HEAD and HEART religion!—Not head religion without the heart, nor heart religion without the head; because head religion without the heart is too COLD, while heart religion without the head is too IGNORANT! The faith that works by love brings head and heart into a state of happy harmony; and through these, takes the government of the whole man; leads the thoughts into the captivity of the obedience of Christ, and exhibits our religion, not upon the ends of our tongues merely, but like most precious jewels upon the ends of our fingers! Thus do the subjects of this faith enjoy religion "pure and undefiled." The "LOVE" by which it works, "rejoices not in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;" and hence becomes the powerful spiritual mainspring of the human soul, by which it is propelled onward in obedience to the truth; and by which, consequently, the love of sin is destroyed. This leads us to remark:

SECONDLY. *That repentance destroys the practice of sin.* We may easily suppose that the practice of sin will cease, when its love has been destroyed. Repentance is indeed a fruit of faith; or rather a production by *grace* through faith. But we shall be asked, "what is repentance?" It is not mere sorrow for sin! for many are always sorrowing, and yet always sinning! But though repentance is not mere sorrow for sin, we say that never did a sinner repent, who was not first deeply, pungently sorry on account of his sins. "Godly sorrow," says Paul, "worketh repentance not to be repented of."—2d Cor. vii. 10. Now if godly sorrow works repentance, it cannot itself be repentance, but must precede it; and repentance must be the result of its operations. It cannot be both the *cause* and *effect* of itself! But godly sorrow works *reformation*, or an *amendment of life*. Take an example: