

obedience to this doctrine, he loves us.

When a mother loves a child, she provides for it, and takes care of it. In like manner we see God's love for us in the provision which he has made in order that we may be happy.

God made the heavens and the earth, the sun, and the moon, and he also created us, and gave us immortal souls, and he preserves our lives, and gives us all the blessings which we have ; but many people do not know the true God, who made all things in the universe, and they are worshipping false gods.

The gospel teaches that we must worship the true God. For instance, if we have not the sun in the day and the moon in the night, we cannot see anything. If we walk in darkness, we shall stumble against a stone or fall into a hole. It is the same with the gospel ; if we do not love God earnestly, and keep his commandments and obey the gospel, our hearts are in darkness, and we are in danger of losing our souls.

It is the soul that raises man above all other living creatures on earth.

It is the soul that enables us to think or know, joy or sorrow, hope or fear.

It was made so by God. When we die the soul cannot die ; and the body shall be killed, the soul cannot be killed.

If we obey God in this world we have eternal happiness. Our eternal happiness depends upon our obedience to God, and the obedience to him also gives happiness in this world, and it prepares us for entering into the kingdom of heaven. The man who lives in sin, and does not love God, and obey his laws, shall make himself enter into eternal misery, where the impenitent sinners die, and they shall have eternal sorrow. The men who believe in Jesus Christ our

Saviour, and who love and obey God, are preparing for the eternal life and joys in heaven.

If we wish to keep our souls in heaven, we must receive the truth of the gospel, and repent of our sin, and glorify God in our hearts, and he shall save us from sin. When we shall start from Shidzuoka to Tokio,* we will receive the passport from the Kencho ;† and with it we shall travel easily. But if on the road there we shall meet with the great wind and rain, we have great distress because of it. It is the same now. We are travellers who are travelling from this world to heaven. The gospel is like the passport, and Jesus Christ is the guide to heaven, and if we are obedient to him he shall send our souls to heaven. But although the good man is sometimes sick and in affliction, it is the same that the traveller has,—the hardship of the wind and rain ; and when the good man is sick and in affliction, God gives comfort, and also he is with him.

Jesus Christ told his disciples that he should be with them ; and we are his disciples. Although we do not see him, he sees us, and he hears us when we pray to him, and also he knows even our thoughts and the desires of our mind, and he can always help and bless us. Therefore the true Christian is humble and faithful, gentle and peaceful, joyful and happy.

We must obey God, and keep his commandments and laws. We must overcome sin, which is affliction, every day. We must leave off all evil desires, and must conquer bad passion. We must not do any evil, but must do good as we are able and have opportunity.

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* Yedo. † Kencho, i.e. local government.