

hath appointed faith as the means by which the sinner is united to Christ, and made to participate in all the blessings of His perfect salvation ; without this we have no life in us, and no part in Christ : and for us the cross hath been borne in vain, so far as eternal life is concerned ; as well might God's own Son have never descended from the Heavens if He be not fastened on by faith, (except indeed, that this is the greater condemnation of all who neglect Him) : we are as a branch severed from the vine—as men in the sunlight, whose eyes are blinded ; if we are without faith, there is neither light nor spiritual life ; this is the witness of the Apostles, “being justified by *faith*, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,” and this is the saying of our Lord Himself, “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him ;” and not only so, faith is the eye of the soul, to which alone God reveals Himself, by the Gospel of Christ, as it is written, “therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith ;” so that without faith there is no interest in Christ and no possibility of pleasing God.

4th. And that only is saving faith which worketh by love. There is a belief, which seems to have no more effect upon the heart than the sun upon the snow clad Alps ; there is a belief that seems to have only the effect that it had upon Judas, *despair*, but for that it is mighty enough, it makes the devils tremble ;