

But how are you to become righteous? By faith in Jesus. Jesus wrought out a righteousness for sinners, clothed in which, by faith, they may be justified and saved. That righteousness of Jesus is unto all, provided for all; it is upon all them that believe. When you believe in Jesus as your Saviour and are covered with the spotless robe of his righteousness, and when your soul is purified by the Holy Spirit, through that Saviour shed upon you, you are ready to welcome death. To you he is stingless. You can triumph over him through Jesus. And as you live a life of faith on the Son of God, bringing forth the fruits of righteousness, you grow in meetness for the heavenly inheritance.—A.

CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE.

It is a saying, trite and commonplace, but true, that example is better than precept. The truth of this proverb has been attested by universal experience. If we advise any one to pursue a certain line of conduct, our actions must correspond with our words, otherwise they will have very little influence. The beauty and excellence of the law of God are more perfectly seen in the actions which are conformed to it, than in the mere contemplation of the law itself. We are never so captivated and attracted by the beauty of holiness, as when we see it personified in the life of one who has been eminent for piety. And sin never appears so hateful in our eyes as when we see it exemplified in the life of one who has been remarkable for wickedness. Abstract duties and cold generalities are frequently disregarded by men, and are easily forgotten; but when truth is exhibited in the form of history or biography, and is exemplified in the lives and actions of men, then it engages the attention, and makes an impression on the mind.

God has adapted his holy word to this peculiarity of our nature. A great part of it is written in the form of history and biography, where those laws which ought to regulate our lives are set forth in an attractive light. The sinfulness of sin is illustrated by the conduct of the wicked, the consequences of which are held up as beacon lights to warn us from treading the paths they trod. And the excellence of holiness is illustrated by the conduct of the good, whose virtues we are commanded to imitate. The excellence of this mode of teaching must be evident to all. Who can read the history of the excellent ones of the earth, without the desire to be