

teristic features of our lamented friend. *Firstly*, How are we to prepare? Repentance is the great, the fundamental method appointed in the Sacred Volume for this purpose. When the Patriarch Noah, the Preacher of Righteousness, admonished the antedeluvian world, this was the scope and end of all his exhortations. But they remained obstinate in their iniquity amid all the denunciations of the Almighty, and perished. When Moses the Jewish legislator, became the leader of the Children of Israel; his whole ministry presents almost one continued scene of entreaty on this subject. Amidst all their murmurings, backslidings, and idolatry, how eloquently, how perseveringly does he beseech them, to return to that God from whom they had wandered; and his last, his dying exclamation, concerning them was, Oh! that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end. The whole strain of the other Prophets of the Mosaic dispensation, was also, of a similar tenor, all proclaiming, "Let the wicked man forsake his ways, and the unrighteous man his deeds; let him return to the Lord and he will have mercy, and to our God and he will abundantly pardon." John the Baptist, in opening the New Testament dispensation, as the harbinger of our Saviour, resumed the Theme thus, unfolding his mission, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." Our Redeemer also enforced the same topic in all its varied forms. Such was also the apostolic mode of preaching, and wherever the Gospel is published in purity or with success, it must be the primary subject, to which the minds of all are directed. Who is there amongst us that has not wept for his sins? that has not, when under the influence of a heart-searching sermon, bodily indisposition, or any other particular dispensation of providence, lamented those vices that degrade the body, corrupt the soul, tarnish the reputation, and make God our enemy? Yet, when the exciting cause is removed, how soon are these serious impressions effaced; as the morning dew and early cloud which soon passeth away. The most ignorant of us, if he has at all applied his mind to the subject, is as conscious of the necessity of repentance as the most enlightened. We may all be convinced,