

God, and that is by a personal faith in Jesus (*Gal. iii. 26*). It is only *true* children that can say 'Our Father'; therefore to put the Lord's Prayer into the mouth of sinners, is to cause them to utter an untruth. God is not their Father, but if we examine the words of Scripture in *Ephesians ii. 2, 3*, we see there stated, that all sinners are *children of Wrath* by nature, *having the spirit of the Devil working in them!!* The Jews nationally had a sort of title to address God as their Father, and yet see what Christ calls them in *John viii. 44*, "Ye are of your Father the Devil"!! If this severe language was used to God's elected earthly people, then how much more to those multitudes now, who having undergone the empty form of being sprinkled as infants, think that they have a changed position toward God, being now called "Members of Christ, Children of God, and Inheritors of the Kingdom of Heaven"!!! (see *Church [of England] Catechism*). What a fearful delusion is this. If God were to grant a sinner his request when he utters those words in the Lord's Prayer, 'Thy kingdom come,' it would be no less than *everlasting destruction* to him,—see *2 Thessalonians i. 7-9*, which describes the prelude to the setting up of Christ's kingdom on Earth.

Thus, according to the Scriptures, none were baptized except those who professed to believe on the Lord Jesus, and who wished to confess it openly before men; any other sort of baptism is not of God, but of man only, and should be rejected by all Christians who would act according to God's mind, in INTELLIGENTLY obeying this beautifully expressive and blessed ordinance. Believers who neglect to conform to this direct and positive command of God, will forfeit reward at the judgment seat of Christ.

If men would only read the Word of God for themselves asking for the teaching of the Spirit (without which they cannot understand it), they would then see the melancholy errors that are taught