

and listens to the answer, "By taking heed thereto according to thy word." And if he does take heed to his footsteps, lest he should fall into sin, he may say even to his God, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments." In short, there will be a complete surrendering of the soul as well as body unto the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

*The wise man's eyes are in his head—to look inward to his heart.*—The motto which Pythagoras made every one of his pupils wear was, "Know thyself;" and certainly, next to knowing his God, the knowledge of his own heart is the study which every wise man would wish to pursue—a knowledge, however, which is not easily attained, for "the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" It is, nevertheless, the duty of every one who has named the name of Christ, not only to depart from all iniquity, but to study to know himself as much as he can.—The powers of the mind are capable of being turned inward to search the heart; and when it is searched, as with a lighted candle from the Lord, what a sight does it present! One of the most loathsome in the world; it is covered all over with the cancerous ulceration of sin; and the lesson that is taught is, not only that the old heart must be taken away, and a new heart given, but also that the heart must be kept with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. The wise man, therefore, humbles himself before his God, and presents his supplications, saying, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Should he, on strict examination, discover the grace of salvation in his heart, he will adore his God and

Saviour, and admire the sovereignty of divine love, in pitching upon him, so worthless and hell-deserving a creature, exclaiming, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?" And he will hear the question, and attend to the injunction, "Who is a wise man, and endued with knowledge among you? Let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness and wisdom."

*The wise man's eyes are in his head—to look outward on the world.*—A wise man not only asks whence, and what am I, but also for what am I? Finding, from the word of truth, that the end of his creation is to glorify God, he looks around him for opportunities of doing good; and, as prudence dictates and ability affords, he feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, and sweetens the cup of adversity to the sufferer; but, above all things, he desires to minister to their spiritual wants. He seeks to honour God not only by his own salvation, but does what he can that others may glorify him in the same way. He seeks the welfare of his kindred, and neighbours, and countrymen; but though his charity begins at home, it ends not till it encircles the world. He hears his Saviour's ascending command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel;" and if he be one that cannot go personally, he will communicate of his substance to aid them that go; and, that he may still further participate in obeying this commandment, his prayers will be fervent and frequent for the success of the gospel amongst all kindreds, and nations, and tongues, on the face of the earth. The wise man is not one of those that asks himself how *little* he may do for the cause of God, and pass unnoticed in society; but he inquires how *much* of his time and means he can bestow in forwarding the work of God's church in the earth.