

THE NEW BIRTH.

HE that believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and in virtue of this new birth, he has eternal life abiding in him for ever, and can never perish. He is now capable of knowing God as his Father, and Jesus Christ whom He sent.

In believing, he is born anew of water (symbol of the word,) by the Spirit; and the new life and nature within, characterizes him as a child of God; the indwelling Spirit witnessing with his spirit of this relationship. God's record to the believer is, that He has given him eternal life, the same life of His Son, assuring him by His word of its possession, and his everlasting security. He "shall not come into judgment," nor shall he ever perish. Once a child of Adam, with an everlasting soul by natural birth; now by the new birth a child of the eternal God, having everlasting life; and of the imperishable race of the last Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ. "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John iii. 14-16; see also John iii. 1-8; v. 24; vi. 53; also vers. 47-65; xx. 31; 1 John iii. 15; v. 1-13).