

being thus thrown on themselves. They know not that they are only realising what the constitution of man as a moral creature is. He is insufficient for his own happiness ; and the creature too is insufficient to make him happy. This may not in the ordinary acceptation be felt as though it were sin ; yet, it is the deepest principle of sin, because it is in fact " worshipping and serving the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever Amen." How many aching hearts are there, how many sensible of a void which refuses to be filled, where there is no conviction, properly speaking, of sin ; nothing which makes manifest the need of an all-sufficient atonement. They think not of the Gospel as the remedy for them. They know not that Jesus, heart-sick in a weary world and rejected by it, in the conscious possession of everything man needed either as a creature or a sinner, turned to such and said, " Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." How has the Gospel been degraded in being regarded merely as a remedy for sin, which it assuredly is : but it is far more ; it is the manifestation of God Himself in such a way to man as a sinner, as to make him happy in God, whilst God is glorified in thus making him supremely happy. The state above described is that which knows not God as the blessed One ; and knows not the blessedness announced by the Oracle of God, " Blessed is he," etc. And herein is the crying evil of the professed Christianity of