

a "living soul,"¹ formed after the image and likeness of God, capable of fulfilling the divine law, and of holding communion with his Maker. Being free to obey or to disobey, under the temptation of Satan, through unbelief, he fell into transgression,² and thereby lost that spiritual life of righteousness in which he was created; and so death passed upon him as the inevitable consequence of his sin.³ As the children of fallen Adam, all mankind bear his image,⁴ and partake of his nature; and until created anew in Christ Jesus by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit they are fallen, degenerated, and dead to the divine life⁵

But while we hold these views of the lost condition of man in the fall, we rejoice to believe that sin is not imputed to any until they transgress the divine law after sufficient capacity has been given to understand it, and that infants, though inheriting this fallen nature, are saved, in the infinite mercy of God, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.

JUSTIFICATION AND SANCTIFICATION.

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."⁷

We believe that justification is of God's free grace,⁸ through which, upon repentance and faith, He pardons

¹ Gen. ii. 7.

² Gen. iii. 6.

³ Rom. v. 12.

⁴ Gen. v. 3.

⁵ I Cor. xv. 21, 22.

⁶ Mark x. 14.

⁷ John iii. 16.

⁸ Rom. iii. 24, 25.