

trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation ; in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory." In Christ, united to Him by faith that worketh by love the believer is freed from the danger of condemnation, he is a new creature, he is a king and a priest to God, justified, pardoned and accepted, with his heart and spirit renewed, he is to oppose and conquer every form of sin indwelling and foreign, to fill his soul as a treasury with the Word of Christ, promote the reign of the grace of God within his heart, live by the faith of the Son of God, and cultivate pure, tender, kindly affection to all the saints, rule his own spirit as well as his household, ever to speak truth with his fellow man, practice moderation, justice and temperance always ; but can he accomplish all this? Yes, by grace, through Christ strengthening him, he can wait on the Lord and renew his strength, mount up with wings as eagles, run and not weary, walk and not faint. The promises of the gospel, exceeding great and precious, make him partaker of the divine nature, his adoption into the family of God makes him of the seed royal and blood royal of heaven, each Christian resembles the child of a king ; old things are passed away, all things are become new, heart, spirit, conduct, character and life. His belief of the truth, pregnant with a world of knowledge about God and Christ to know which is life eternal, has lifted him out of his corrupt state of nature from darkness to light, opened his blind eyes and healed them, that they see the light and he believes in this light, is no longer of the night or of darkness, then he is vigilant, walking circumspectly in wisdom, redeeming the time that the adversary may not get an advantage. It may be asked, Is he always conqueror? Alas, he is often fooled, but never suspends hostilities, never treats with the enemy, but as a conqueror, and sometimes rises to be more than conqueror through Him that loved him. The princes of the house of Orange, we are told often confessed that they learned more by their own blunders than otherwise. The Christian learns caution, patience, experience and hope, his penitence is real, and he strengthens the weak parts, but his source of true knowledge is the word of truth, the gospel of his salvation. Alexander's high birth kept him out of the Olympic games unless kings were his competitors. The Christian's high birth keeps him from all mean, sinful things. He cannot, he is unable to make up his mind to sin deliberately as worldlings do, because he is born of God. He is in daily communications with God, who speaks to him in His Word and hears and records his prayers. Enock walked with God. Yes, in that age that Savants in their ignorance and blunderings call barbarous. By the new covenant of grace in Christ the way is opened for the flowing forth of gifts and favors. The Christian dispensation is by way of eminence, the dispensation of the Spirit, which implies much more than even the Christian can be aware of in this limited confined condition, largely enlightened as it undoubtedly is, for he is only at school here, cultivating his powers to reach their manhood. Now the aid of Him in whom we live and move and have our being is so graciously given to carry on the work He has begun, that after men believe in Christ they are sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession to the praise of His glory. The new born babe must be nourished, and the sincere milk of the word is given him that he may grow thereby. First life, then growth. The Holy Spirit is the author of this life, growth and health. The worldings receive him not, because he is invisible, and they look only at things that are seen, temporal and perishing. But believers know him for he dwelleth with them and in them, there