

THE  
CHILD'S FIRST STEP  
TO  
CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.



BLEST Spirit, who didst give the Word,  
Thy light to understand it, send ;  
That all may by it know the Lord,  
And hail him as the sinner's friend.

Do thou sweet childhood's teacher teach,  
And render apt the youthful heart :  
Oh ! let these crumbs thy blessing reach,  
And glad acceptance wide impart.

PRICE ONE PENNY.



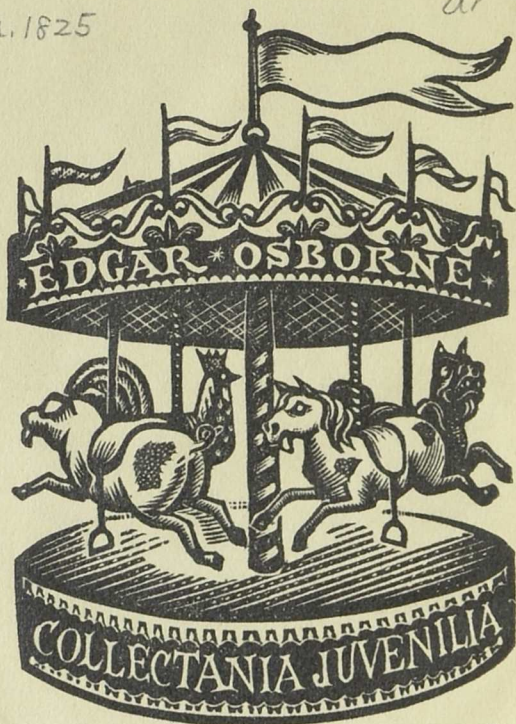
THE  
CHILD'S FIRST STEP  
TO  
*Christian Knowledge.*



DERBY :  
Printed by and for  
THOMAS RICHARDSON, FRIAR-GATE.

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ca. 1825

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## PREFACE.

THE humble attempt which lately proceeded from this press, to promote the great cause of religion in Sabbath Schools, under the title of "THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL SCHOLAR'S REWARD," having met with approbation, another step is here taken toward bringing the youngest of the rising generation acquainted with the more especially important truths of that only Volume that maketh wise unto salvation. The little reward-book above alluded to, of similar size and prize with this, consisted of texts of scripture from the Old Testament, these arranged here are from the New: "for the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." To remember the Creator in the days of youth he must first be known; and the first instruction imparted to a child should be to know God; but it should be in connexion with Jesus Christ; "for this is life eternal," he said, "to know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." As soon then as a



child is old enough to be told, that a good and gracious God made him, and preserves him, he should be told also, that he sent his only and eternal Son into the world to save sinners: that young as he may be, he is a sinner; but by believing in Jesus dying in the stead of sinners, he shall be saved. The minister of the gospel is bound to make the same determination in his teachings of the people as St. Paul did, to know nothing among them, comparatively, but Jesus Christ and him crucified: and when the Sunday-school teacher forms the same resolution, he very soon sees the beneficial result of it; for by the preaching of the cross alone can men be drawn unto Christ: and they alone who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts: they alone who are believing in Christ are scripturally careful to maintain good works: and they who are risen with him, are they who alone can in spirit and in truth be setting their affections on things above, where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God. With the hope that the same Spirit who gave the word of life will accompany the perusal of the few sentences of it here strung together, they are now in prayer committed to his blessing.



### PRAYER.

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name he will give it you: *John*, xvi. 23.

Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need: *Heb.* iv. 16.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth unto all men liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him: *James*, i. 5.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God: *Phil.* iv. 6.



### THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.

ALL scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect; thoroughly furnished unto all good works: 2 *Tim.* iii. 16, 17.

As new-born babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 1 *Peter*, ii. 2.

Search the scriptures; for these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name: *John*, v. 39; xx. 31.





## THE SINFULNESS OF MAN.

By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: *Rom. v. 12.*

Now we know that what things the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God: *Rom. iii. 19.*

We were by nature the children of wrath even as others: *Eph. ii. 3.*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us: *1 John, i. 8.*

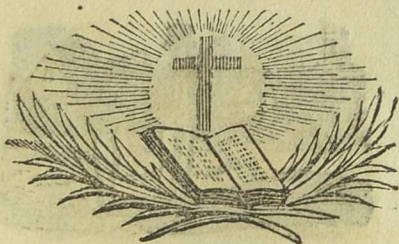


## THE LOVE OF GOD.

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. 16.

God commended his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us: *Rom.* v. 8.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only-begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins: 1 *John*, iv. 9, 10.



## REDEMPTION.

THIS is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners: 1 *Tim.* i. 15.

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: *John*, iii. 14, 15.

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; for he hath made him to be sin for us who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him: 2 *Cor.* v. 19, 21.



## REGENERATION.

VERILY, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God: *John*, iii. 3.

If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new: *2 Cor.* v. 17.

In Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature: *Gal.* vi. 15.

Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of his: *Rom.* viii. 9.



## SANCTIFICATION.

THE love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the holy Ghost which is given unto us: *Rom. v. 5.*

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. — To be carnally minded is death ; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

As many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the sons of God. — The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God : *Rom. viii. 1. 6. 14. 16.*





## FAITH.

FAITH is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen : *Heb. xi. 1.*

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved : *Acts, xvi. 31.*

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life : and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life ; but the wrath of God abideth on him : *John, iii. 36.*

By grace are ye saved through faith ; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God : not of works lest any man should boast : *Eph. ii. 8. 6.*



### REPENTANCE.

THE time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand : repent ye, and believe the gospel : *Mark, i. 15.*

Testifying both to the Jews and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ : *Acts, xx. 12.*

I showed, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance : *Acts, xxvi. 20.*

Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do thy first works ; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent : *Rev. ii. 5.*



## HOPE.

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost : *Rom. xv. 13.*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead : *1 Pet. i. 3.*

Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you : *1 Pet. iii. 15.*



## LOVE.

AND now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three ; but the greatest of these is charity : 1 *Cor.* xiii. 13.

Master, which is the great commandment in the law ? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself : *Matt.* xxii. 36 — 39.

Beloved, let us love one another : for love is of God : and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God : 1 *John*, iv. 7.



## HUMILITY.

BLESSED are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven: *Matt. v. 3.*

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross: *Phil. ii. 5—8.*





## SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD.

BE not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God: *Rom. xii. 2.*

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty: *2 Cor. vi. 17, 18.*



## OBEDIENCE.

CHILDREN, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord: *Col. iii. 20.*

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you: *Heb. xiii. 17.*

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ: *2 Cor x. 5.*



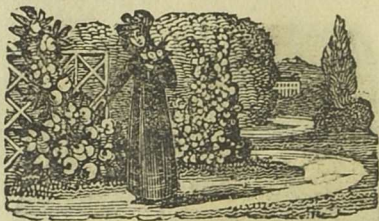
## PERSEVERANCE.

HE that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved: *Matt. xxiv. 13.*

Let us not be weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap if we faint not: *Gal. vi. 9.*

Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our Faith: *Heb. xii. 1, 2.*

Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord: *1 Cor. xv. 58.*



## DEATH.

ALL flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 1 *Pet.* i. 24.

We know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens: 2 *Cor.* v. 1.

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them: *Rev.* xiv. 13.



## RESURRECTION.

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept: for since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead: 1 *Cor.* xv. 20, 21.

Our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself: *Phil.* iii. 20, 21.





## JUDGMENT.

It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: *Heb. ix. 27.*

We must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, whether it be good or bad: *2 Cor. v. 10.*

As Paul reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled: *Acts, xxiv. 25.*

Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments: *Rev. xvi. 9.*



## HELL.

THEN shall he say unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels; and these shall go away into everlasting punishment: *Matt. xxv. 41. 46.*

The fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death: *Rev. xxi. 8.*



## HEAVEN.

THEN shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: *Matt. xxv. 34.*

I reckon that the sufferings of this present time, are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us: *Rom. viii. 18.*

When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory: *Col. iii. 4.*

The righteous shall shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father: *Matt. xiii. 43.*



## PRAISE.

UNTO him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen: *Rev. i. 5, 6.*

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen: *Jude, 24, 25.*

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