

ETERNAL PUNISHMENT.

BY REV. E. F. FOSHAY.

To the Churches Comprising the P. E. Island Baptist Association.

DEAR BRETHREN:

In presenting this, our annual epistle, we have thought it good to address you on the subject of future punishment, or, in other words, to present the Scripture doctrine of the unending sufferings of all who die unreconciled to God.

Again, there are others who, to get rid of the doctrine, advocate the theory that at the general judgment the wicked will be raised up, condemned and annihilated.

Let us now hear what the Scripture says on this subject. We will quote the passages in full which place the righteous and wicked in contrast, most of the passages having direct and exclusive reference to the judgment day:

"The hope of the righteous shall be gladness, but the expectation of the wicked shall perish." Prov. x. 28 "The wicked is driven away in his wickedness, but the righteous hath hope in his death."

We have quoted a few of the many passages which show the destiny of the righteous and the wicked; most of them were uttered by the compassionate Saviour, who knew the history of sin and all its terrible consequences.

Rippon, Andrew Fuller, and others. The same holds good in missionary work; Drs. Carey, Judson, and others of kindred spirits who took their lives in their hands and carried the gospel to the savage tribes of earth, believed firmly in this doctrine.

MINUTES

OF THE

Prince Edward Island Association.

(Continued.)

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the visiting brethren from other Provinces for their attendance and assistance.

Resolved, That while not wishing to cultivate a controversial spirit, we recognize the necessity of preserving the Divine purity of the Word of God, and remembering the words of the Master, "Ye are my disciples if you do whatsoever I command you," we would recommend to the attention and favor of the Baptist churches on this Island, and also all seekers after truth, a work recently published, entitled "Bible Baptism," written by Rev. D. G. McDonald, of Charlottetown, P. E. I.

The Committee submitted their final report which was adopted:

That the following Committees be appointed to report on the several subjects next year.

Temperance.—Rev. J. A. Gordon, Deacon A. Scott, and Bro. Sprague.

Sunday Schools.—Francis Bain, George McNeil, A. N. Sterns.

Education.—Rev. J. B. Woodland, Rev. C. C. Burgess and Rev. D. G. McDonald.

Systematic Beneficence.—Bros. Arthur Simpson, John Nicol and Geo. Davies.

Denominational Literature.—Rev. E. F. Foshay, Bro. M. G. McLeod, and Rev. D. G. McDonald.

Missions.—Rev. D. G. McDonald, Bro. Geo. Warren, and Rev. E. B. Corey.

Minutes approved. Closed with prayer by Rev. S. B. Kempton.

E. F. FOSHAY, Moderator. J. B. WOODLAND, Clerk. M. G. McLEOD.

DENOMINATIONAL STATISTICS.

No. 3

In my last article I was suggesting some improvements that might be made in the method of collecting and recording the statistics of our churches. One more proposition will complete my list.

A form for Church Letters, embracing statistical tables, adapted to the requirements of all the churches in these Provinces, should be prepared and perfected by a competent Committee of the Convention. Such a form would doubtless be at once adopted by all the Associations, for the sake of uniformity as well as on account of its completeness.

Since my last was written, Minutes of two of the Associations have been published in the VISITOR, with reports of Committees in full,—all except the customary tables. Now why would not the general adoption of the like course answer every purpose, and do away with the necessity of printing the Minutes in pamphlet form?

The Sinner's Friend.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend." (John xv. 13.) "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." (Heb. xiii. 5.)

I've found a Friend; oh, such a Friend! He loved me ere I knew Him; He drew me with the cords of love.

I've found a Friend; oh, such a Friend! He bled, He died to save me; And not alone the gift of life, But His own self He gave me.

I've found a Friend; oh, such a Friend! All power to Him is given To guard me on my onward course' And bring me safe to heaven.

I've found a Friend; oh, such a Friend! So kind and true and tender; So wise a Counsellor and a guide, So mighty a Defender.

Joseph, My Son, is Yet Alive.

BY REV. CHARLES ADAMS, D.D.

Jacob had a long time thought him dead. More than twenty years before, his coat of many colors was brought to his poor father, bloody and torn, as if rent from the bleeding body of the dying boy by some ravenous beast in the act of devouring him.

As he lingered through those melancholy years, like David long afterwards, he doubtless lamented, crying in secret places, "My son, my son, would to God I had died for thee!" and were the precious child lying buried somewhere, the long ago of the father's heart would have been to go and lie by his side and sleep with him the long sleep of the grave.

Alas! for the father and mother from whom a beloved boy is suddenly removed forever! And, alas, how many such were thus bereft by that most cruel Southern rebellion! And yet, as a class of mourners, they seemed to occupy the background in the public sympathy.

Such, happily, was not Jacob's great sorrow. After long years there came to him a morning without clouds,—a wonderful day—a day of unutterable surprise, a sort of resurrection day, a day fraught with tidings incredible. "Joseph is alive!" Oh what words—too great and wonderful for belief! and the heart of the dear old man fainted and died within him.

Joy to the old patriarch. Joy to him as he made preparations; as he seated himself in the choicest of the waggons; as he journeyed away southward; as he realized himself coming daily nearer his beloved Joseph; as they hailed each other at last with tender and long embrace, and mutual overflowing tears of inconceivable happiness.

Blessed be that Providence which thus of ten delights, by strange and beautiful conspiracies, to bring heaven down to earth.

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