

TRUTH AND LIBERTY

boles, and were forced out of the earth and the elements surrounding it. The immortal spirit is placed in the human tabernacle prepared for it by the law of generation, and the body is quickened by the breath of life. As the prophet Isaiah says, "There is a spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding." The wise man Solomon, in describing the disintegration of the body, says, "The prelates, 12th chapter, 7th verse, finishes the description with these words: "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." The spirit goes back to God, the earthly part goes back to the elements out of which it was organized, when that dissolution takes place. The immortal spirit, therefore, who live in the twelfth century, are really and truly, so far as our spiritual nature goes, the offspring of Adam and Eve, and are as truly men as we are. He will be just as much concerned in our happiness and eternal progress, enlightenment and eternal salvation, as He was of those who lived in the first century. He will be just as near to me that is a reasonable conclusion to arrive at. God is the same now as He was then, and we are His children, and must be treated as such. Therefore, we can approach God, we can ask and receive, we can seek and find, we can knock and have the door opened to us. If not, why not?

**THE LIVING WORD OF GOD.**

But religious teachers tell us that we need no need for this. They say, "Light; we have as much as God's light;" we have in an age of Gospel beauty, they say. It seems to me in reflecting upon this, that the people are in a marvellous position. The apostles and prophets ordained of God to speak for Him and authorized to administer in His name, and who received communications from Him, certainly had the privilege of this. We have these times. I take up the New Testament and read therein of the constitution and nature of the church, and of the blessings enjoyed by the people who embraced the Gospel which His servants preached; of their power, influence and authority; and that the people should not depend upon books or