

**SCRIPTURAL
MARKS OF A TRUE
BELIEVER**

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Scriptural Marks of a True Believer by F. A. C. Lillingston

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Scriptural Marks of a True Believer.

SCRIPTURAL MARKS
OF A
TRUE BELIEVER.

BY THE
REV. F. A. C. LILLINGSTON, M.A.,
Vicar of Broxbourne, and late Archdeacon of York, New South Wales.



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PREFACE.

MANY of those who heard these Lectures expressed a wish for their publication. I have therefore published them, with the earnest hope that they may be of service in leading many to a true knowledge of Christ, and of their own standing in Him. I have long been deeply impressed with the difference which exists between the Christianity of the New Testament, and that which contents many in the present day; so I have been anxious to lead some to examine their own state and position by the one standard of God's own Word. If any of God's own people find

anything in these Lectures which would lead them to despondency, the remedy is instantly at hand,—a new, a thorough dedication of self, body, soul, and spirit, to Him who has bought them with a price. The only legitimate object of looking at, and examining ourselves, is to cause us to trust more fully and unreservedly in Jesus, and to look out more constantly at Him who is our Life. May God grant that these Lectures may be used by Him to lead many so to do; and to Him shall be all the praise, through all eternity.

Broxbourne, 1878.

CONTENTS.



NO.	PAGE
I. CHRIST IN YOU	9
II. JESUS PRECIOUS	29
III. PURE RELIGION AND UNDEFILED	47
IV. THE BELIEVER SINNETH NOT	67
V. THE BELIEVER A LITTLE CHILD	88
VI. THE TRUE BELIEVER DOTH THE WILL OF GOD	107
VII. THE TRUE BELIEVER CHOOSES THE GOOD PART	123

Scriptural Marks of a True Believer.

I.

Christ in You.

2 CORINTHIANS XIII. 5.

"Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates."

THE Apostle had said shortly before, that the Christians at Corinth had demanded a proof of him, whether or not Christ was speaking in him. And after suggesting that they had already a powerful proof in what He had done and said when He had been among them, he goes on to remind them, that there was for them a much more important practical question: namely, whether they themselves were Christians; whether they were themselves abiding in faith in Christ, and so were showing forth the marks and signs of true be-

10 *Scriptural Marks of a True Believer.*

lievers? And in order to help them in that consideration, he gives them one very significant sign by which they could test themselves: namely, that "Christ was in them," except they were only pretended Christians, deceivers, because self-deceived. It is important for us to remember, that this was written to those who had two qualifications, which many are inclined to think quite sufficient, without any further examination. They were all baptized Christians; they were all professing members of a Christian Church; and yet, to these, St. Paul, writing, as we believe, under the inspiration of God the Holy Ghost, exhorts them to examine themselves, not as to whether they were growing in one grace or another, or in all graces, but the much deeper and more searching question, whether they were "in the faith or not." And further, he exhorts them not to rest content with any mere superficial or hurried examination, but to prove their own selves; or, in other words, to use such tests that would honestly show them the state of the case. And then he proceeds to give them one test, which, if they failed to find present in them, would show that they were reprobates, or worthless, such indeed as our Lord has described as salt that has lost its savour.