

## HOW A CHRISTIAN SHOULD LIVE

The **third question** asked those who unite with a Presbyterian church is this: *Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as a follower of Christ?* This question indicates that being a Christian makes a difference in the way a person lives. Before a person can faithfully make the promise which this question requires, he must know what the Christian life is and how he can go about living it. The book of 1 John calls on Christians to "walk in the light" and "walk in love." Walking in the light means knowing and following the will of God as it is revealed in the Bible (Psa. 119:111,130). Walking in love means living a life of love toward God and others. Jesus said that love of God and love of our neighbors is the fulfillment of the law (Matt.22:36-40). Now this is not to suggest that we are saved because of the way we live! We are saved by believing in what Christ did for our salvation and receiving Him (Eph. 2:8-9). But we certainly will live in a different and better way because we are saved...because we are Christians. A Christian is a changed person, and he ought to live a changed life (2 Cor. 5:17). The same Christ who saves from sin will, by His Spirit, help believers live the kind of lives they ought to live: "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him" (Col. 2:6). We receive Christ by faith. We must live the Christian life in the same way...by faith. This was Paul's secret of Christian living: "I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me"(Phil.4:13).