

ence from the confession of God's sovereignty, consider for a moment the Calvinistic "*Cor ecclesiae*," the doctrine of election. At all times of public action, heroism, and national glory, the Calvinistic nations have confessed their faith in this doctrine, and only in days of spiritual decadence has this profoundest thought of moral life been forgotten or denied. Election is derived from the sovereignty of God. By election, the Calvinist has never meant an exaltation of self on the part of any one, but merely to emphasize that all honor belongs to God, even the honor of moral greatness and heroism of faith. It needs no repetition that from this, Calvin derived all his strength. Of our fathers and of the Huguenots this is known from their confession and petitions. Mrs. Hutchinson, whose memoirs were quoted above, wrote concerning the Puritan troubles: "At this period this important doctrine of election began to be abandoned by the Anglican prelates, but all persons more serious and saint-like, attached themselves to it with ardor." Of the founders of the American Union, Bancroft testifies, that the secret of their strength lay in their firm belief in the wonderful council of Almighty God who had elected them. Hence all fear was banished from their hearts, and they could as little become the slaves of a priestcraft as of a despot. And for more witnesses, take Professor Maurice, in his brilliant "*Lectures on Social Morality*." He writes: "The foundation on which we stand is immovable, for we stand upon the election, spake John Calvin, and all France, Holland, and Scotland attended to his word. That word furnished muscular vigor for the French religious wars. Holland's emancipation from Spain was the fruit of this confession. The moulding of Scotland's nationality was wrought by this spiritual principle. Yes: this incisive principle works still so mightily that social morality cannot interpret life unless it reckon with this doctrine." And no wonder. "A living God," he writes, "higher than all dogmas and systems, was heard not by the schoolman, but