first hearing of the voice of the Son of  
God, and growing in the knowledge of  
Him when awakened from spiritual death),  
**according as is truth in Jesus** (the rendering and connexion of this clause have  
been much disputed. I will remark, 1)  
that it seems by its form to be subordinate  
to “*in Him that ye were taught*,” and the  
**according as** to express the quality of the  
teaching: 2) that in this case we have  
**truth is in Jesus** answering to “*in Him  
that ye were taught.”* 3) To take the  
easier members first, **in Jesus** is a closer  
personal specification of **in Him**—in Jesus  
—that one name recalling their union in  
both in His Person, and, which is important here, in His example also: 4) **as is  
truth** expands **ye were taught**—if the  
nature of the teaching which you received  
was according to that which is truth [in  
Him]. So that the meaning will amount  
to this—if ye were taught in Him according to that which is truth in Jesus;—if  
you received into yourselves, when you listened to the teaching of the Gospel, that  
which is true [respecting you—and Him]  
in your union with and life in Jesus, the  
Son of God manifest in the flesh),

**22**.] **namely, that ye put off as regards  
your former way of life** (explains the reference of the term **put off**: as if he had  
said, “for you were clothed with it in your  
former conversation”) **the old man** (your  
former unconverted selves, see note on Rom.  
vi. 6), **which is** (i. e., seeing that it is) **corrupting** (i.e., waxing corrupt) **according  
to** (in conformity with; as might be expected under the guidance of) **the lusts of  
deceit** (*deceit* is personified—the lusts  
which are the servants, the instruments of  
deceit: the rendering, ‘*deceitful lusts*,  
A.V., destroys the whole force and beauty of  
the contrast below to *holiness of the truth*),

**23**.] **and be renewed** (both in the  
original are marked,—the gradual process  
implied in the *present tense,* and the *passive* character of the verb) **by** (not merely  
the sphere in which, but the agency by  
which) **the Spirit of your mind** (the expression is unusual, and can only be understood by reference to the New Test. meaning of the word **Spirit**, as applied to men.  
—First, it is clearly here not exclusively  
nor properly ‘the Holy Spirit of God,’  
because it is called “*the Spirit of* **your  
mind**.” It is a **Spirit**, in some sense belonging to, not merely dwelling in, **you**.  
The fact is, that in the New Test. the  
“*spirit*” of man is only then used in its  
*proper sense*, as worthy of its place and  
governing functions, when it is one Spirit  
with the Lord. We read of no “*old  
spirit:*” the *spiritual man* is necessarily a  
man dwelt in by the Spirit of God: the  
*psychic man* is the ‘animal’ man led by  
the psyché (the animal soul), and *not having a spirit*, Jude 19. Thus then the  
disciples of Christ are *being renewed*, undergoing a process of renewal in the life of  
God, by the agency of the **spirit** of their  
minds, the restored and divinely-informed  
leading principle of their **mind**, just as the  
children of the world are walking in the  
*vanity* of *their* minds);

**24**.] **and put  
on the new man** (as opposed to the *old*,  
not meaning *Christ*, any further than as  
He is its great Head and prototype; see  
below), **which was created** (as historical  
fact, once for all, in Christ. In each individual case, it is not created again, but  
put on: ef. Rom. 14) **after God** (i.e.,  
*after God’s image*: see Col. iii, 10; also  
Gen. i. 27: so l Pet. i. 15. The doctrine  
of the restoration to us of the divine image  
in Christ, as here implied, is not to be  
overlooked. Not the bare fact of Gen. i.  
27, but the great truth which that fact represents, is alluded to. The image of God  
in Christ is a far more glorious thing than  
Adam ever had, or could have had: but  
still the being “*after the image of God*,”  
*“after God*,” is true of both) **in** (element,