

vided they grieve Him not with their sins nor resist them through the hardness of their hearts,—until they be finally admitted into the Kingdom of Glory.

And now, in conclusion, I desire to set before you that snare of Satan, that you may avoid it, which he has spread before the nations of the world—"the evil heart of unbelief." At no time has it been more prevalent than at the present. Are there not many who would be deeply offended were they charged with infidelity and unbelief, but who treat all those ordinances which Christ and his Apostles have appointed as the peculiar means of expressing our belief and our gratitude and our love to God for his inestimable love in the redemption of our souls,—for the means of grace here and the hope of glory hereafter which He hath given us, and for strengthening our belief and refreshing our souls,—securing to us all the benefits which should flow from a pure and undoubting faith,—

Why do such persons, while they assume the name of Christian, and even glory in the name, manifest in almost their whole conduct, if not a total disregard, at least a cold, hesitating, doubting and indifferent attention to the *distinguishing characteristics* of Christianity, by preferring before the performance of the duties which it prescribes and commands, an almost entire devotion to the things which it condemns? Why is it that while they profess to acknowledge its various obligations, they have no serious intention of ever submitting