

Saviour, after exhorting his hearers to avoid their example, and assuring them that all who are content to win the applause and good opinion of the world, must be satisfied to look for no other reward, proceeds to point out the danger of covetousness, and to shew them how much the Christian's best hopes must be sacrificed by a love of this world's treasures. It is indeed strange how much more anxious, even people who profess to be Christians are to secure their own worldly prosperity, and to gain the means of indulging in luxuries and superfluities, than they are in laying up their treasures in heaven, though every day's experience shews us how uncertain and unsatisfactory are all the pleasures and enjoyments of life, and no one even pretends to doubt, that at a moment's warning they may be called upon to resign them all; or be so disabled and reduced by bodily disease, that they may be incapable of feeling any gratification from the utmost success that can possibly reward their exertions. We hear a great deal of the self-denial and praiseworthy exertions of the missionaries, who go out to distant lands in the service of God, and who willingly leave their homes, and expose themselves to all the dangers of long and perilous voyages, unhealthy climates, the enmity of savage tribes, and all the other hazards to which they are certain to be exposed. Their names are known from one end of the world to the other. Their lives are published, and every written or spoken word that can be remembered of theirs is considered worth publishing and handing down from one generation to another. People look upon them as very extraordinary characters; some wonder that they could prevail upon themselves to make so many sacrifices, and endure so many dangers and hardships, simply from the love of God and a desire to extend the blessings of the Gospel to those lands that still "lie in darkness and the shadow of death." Others look upon them as deceivers and visionaries, and call their zeal enthusiasm; but to all they seem objects of interest or of curiosity, because they are actuated by motives that are sympathised in by so few of their fellow-creatures. They are laying up