

a co-worker with the Most High. God works in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure, and we work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. The New Testament is full of figures expressive of the necessity of effort in the Christian life, such as *striving*, *running*, *fighting*. The sacred writers exhort us to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, to perfect holiness in the fear of God, to mortify our members, purify our hearts, put off the old man and put on the new.

Here again an appeal has been made, for example, by the late Dr. A. J. Gordon in "The Twofold Life," to the experience of Christians, as supporting the theory of the Second Conversion and Full Consecration. Passages are quoted to show that the life of the greatest saints was one of unclouded peace, and joy, and blessing. But the presentation is one-sided. He gives a glowing description of the lofty attainments and exalted moods of Samuel Rutherford, but he does not tell us, as Rutherford himself does, of that Sabbath morning when he was out in his garden, and heard one of his aristocratic parishioners gallop past in a huff away to hear another minister, and when Rutherford's mind was suddenly filled with a humiliating disappointment and the sharp smart of wounded pride; and it was only after a long, prayerful struggle that he was able to enter the pulpit in anything like a proper frame.

Many of the adherents of this doctrine have to all appearance avoided the Scylla of common worldliness to fall into the equally dangerous Charybdis of spiritual pride. From their fancied eminence of a special endowment of the Spirit they look down with a lofty compassionate pity on those whom they consider less highly favoured. This would be ludicrous, were it not a sad evidence of our common humanity, but it does not tend to commend the teaching.

Great care, however, needs to be exercised in our pulpit references to the holiness doctrine in all its phases. If it can be repeated from lip to lip in a community, with any show of foundation, that the Presbyterian minister has preached against