

pointing to Heaven, let the remembrance of the time when you went to the house of God in company with them that kept holy day, awaken the longings of your heart after the courts of God's house, and lead you to put your trust in that God who is not confined to temples made with hands, and who is present with them who remember His Sabbath, though far from His sanctuary. When you cannot assemble under the care of a duly appointed minister of the Lord, you may, to a certain extent, derive the benefits of social worship by meeting with those of your neighbourhood, for the purposes of reading the Word and of prayer. Two are better than one. The warmth of social affection may give fervency and life to devotions that otherwise might become languid,—and where two or three meet together, the Saviour has promised that he will be in the midst.

It will be of unspeakable importance that the duties of family religion be duly observed by you. Let your household be duly assembled for the morning and the evening sacrifice. Let no earthly pursuit interfere with the duty you owe to your heavenly Father. However unfavourable may be your circumstances, and however urgent your worldly avocations, take care to reserve a portion of your time for God. When you can meet around the social board, let all you partake of be sanctified by the Word of God and by prayer; and in the dark forest, or on the lonely heath, when the members of the family, widely scattered throughout the day in the discharge of their necessary duties, meet together for the night, for safety and repose, let the rude cabin be made glad by the voice of prayer and praise.

The circumstances in which you go forth from among us are widely different. Your community forms indeed a world, combining in itself every diversity. The infant of days and the man of grey hairs are among you, and the rich and the poor meet together. There are some of you in all the buoyancy of youth,—your breasts animated with hope, panting with desire, full of confidence in the success of schemes that may redound to your worldly advantage and renown. And it is impossible not to feel an interest in the energy that awakens to manly enterprise. But while we sympathize in the generous purposes that fill your bosoms,—while we heartily wish for abundant success to the efforts of honest industry, and while our earnest prayer is that you may return in pride and in honour to the district from which you now go forth, or become the founders of an honoured race in the land whither you go, we still would have you to remember that the