

quently they have quit the field, and entered into some pursuits which promise more of this kind of reward.

Now any way we ever have been able to view the subject, we cannot but view the man unfit for a minister of Christ, who will not preach the gospel unless he is convinced that he can make more money at it than any other pursuit. Such a man is nothing but a worldling, and his energies are commanded and controlled by silver and gold, and not by the Spirit of the Lord. Although men cannot preach without a support, and although there is no reason why the preacher of the gospel should not live just as well as his brethren around him; yet it is a fact, that no man who was merely controlled by dollars and cents has ever been any profit as a preacher of righteousness.

We readily admit that justice and equality among men and among brethren, require that the faithful and industrious preacher of the gospel should receive a reward equal to what he could make by following some honorable worldly pursuit. But the same kind of justice and equality would have secured our Saviour an honorable living, but he did not consider himself at liberty to "quit the field" because he did not get it. The same justice and equality would have given the apostles and all the first preachers of the gospel an honorable living, but they did not consider themselves at liberty to desist, because they did not get it. Are we then, at liberty to stop this glorious work at any time, simply because it does not yield as great pecuniary advantages as some other calling? He who risks it to do so, risks it at a mighty peril, most assuredly.

Perhaps some one is ready to say, "I am no apostle, and the words, wo is me, if I preach not the gospel, are not applicable to me." Be not so fast, my good brother. Has not the Lord given you the gospel? and has he not given you the ability to preach it, to the salvation of sinners? "But I am not inspired," you say. No matter for that. The same Spirit that gave it to the apostles, *through them* has given it to you; and sinners will go to ruin just as fast for the want of that word, as they would if you were an inspired apostle. The word of God is of the same value, if we learn it from the bible, as it would be if we received it by direct revelation from God. Your not being called as an apostle, therefore, is no excuse, for you not preaching. The command of the inspired apostle to you and *all preachers*, is: "The things thou hast learned of me, [Paul] *commit to faithful men*, who shall be able to teach others also." Will you do this? Or, will you stand and make excuses?