

in righteousness, is to learn more about God, to be built up in their most holy faith, and to walk in the Divine ordinances. But if men form false opinions of God and Christian life, and admit no truth, either doctrinal or practical, except it will associate with some former teaching, they dishonor God, and cannot read His revealed will for correction, or for instruction in righteousness. It is not enough that we call no man master. We must have one Master, even Christ. Said a certain ship captain: "I have unrolled the chart of the British North American coast many times. I have followed along down with my finger, and observed the dangerous places and the harbors. I have noticed a light-house here and another there and have studied the sailing path of ships. But, supposing I had been in an equinoctial gale, not far from the dangerous coast, and had not seen the sun for many days, and were trying to enter some harbor, then I would study the chart with a deeper interest. Yes, with the men to hold it, on account of the rolling and struggling of the ship."

I would look earnestly for signs, and endeavour to find out all things possible. So men must study the Bible in the light of eternal realities. "He that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man who built his house upon a rock." Here is a head-land: "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Here is the light-house: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." And there is the channel of duty: "If any man will come after Me let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me." It is the Book of Life, so take heed how you read it. In reading it see you have the truth and not the semblance. See you are stirred by the Divine Spirit and not by emotion. It can teach you about God and heaven, and may God lead you from cunning and subtle interpretations of truth to the living fountain and solid substance. May men everywhere search the Scriptures and learn what the Spirit's voice is to individuals and to the churches; and may men bring out of the great treasury that which God has put in, nothing less and nothing more."

(c.) By forming low opinions of the value of the truths taught in the Scriptures. It appears to be the spirit and opinion of the present age that no matter how polluted the fountain is, if the streams are only pure, but the question is, Can the streams be pure when the fountain is corrupt? Our Saviour said: "A corrupt tree cannot bear good fruit." Actions apparently good and beneficial to society may flow from a heart at war with the doctrines and teachings of God's Word. "Yet whatsoever is not of faith is sin, and without faith it is impossible to please God." Some people have a strong prejudice against what is called doctrinal religion, and go hand and heart for what they call non-denominational truths. We have yet to find a man who is a true, earnest Christian and has no