

To point out and to enforce these great practical duties is the especial work of the Christian Minister; and he, more than any other man, is required to take heed to his ways, to have always printed in his remembrance how great a treasure is committed to his charge; and as he considers his awful responsibilities, the strict and solemn account he must one day give at the judgment seat of Christ, it cannot be but that, like St. Paul, at times he feels "Who is sufficient for these things," but that like that great apostle, he may look up and say, our sufficiency is of God; and following him as he followed Christ, learn from his example how to make full proof of his Ministry. St. Paul was a man of like passions with ourselves, and as such subject to the same temptations, trials and difficulties, yet from the time God called him by His Grace to be the faithful preacher of His Gospel, to the period when willingly he sealed the truth of his Ministry with his blood, without wavering, without looking back, he persevered unto the end, and the principle on which he acted, so worthy of our imitation, is set forth in the words of our text, "*This one thing I do.*"

My Rev. brethren, 'tis no light occasion has called us here; we meet to take counsel together, to deliberate on the affairs of God's Church; and it may well demand our most serious consideration how all things may be ordered upon the best and surest foundation; for we are planting that Church in a right noble country, and generations yet unborn will be affected by the course of action which we pursue. Under such circumstances, the preacher may well be excused from delivering a learned dissertation, a discourse merely pleasing to the intellectual faculties: his duty is rather to seek to stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance; and in setting before you the example of St. Paul, also humbly seek himself to obtain some portion of the Spirit manifested in the words of the text, and pray to be enabled like the great apostle to say, "*This one thing I do.*"

First—The first obvious deduction from these words is,