

much time is spent in cavilling and criticising, in disputation and controversy, often about the most wretched trifle, some unessential matter of mere taste and fancy, that while this is going on the enemies of God and truth creep in and make havoc of us altogether. They take advantage of our folly, and while we are *talking* they are *doing*—doing irreparable damage to our souls.

Take, then, this motto with you, and let this year be a *year of doing* with you all. Resolve, by the grace of God, to keep these words, "*Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do—to do for Thy sake and Thy cause this year?*" ever before your minds during 1881. Busy yourselves in thinking constantly what you, each one, can do for the Lord. So will this year be an imperishable memorial before God of your Christian faith and love, and your willingness to do His will. And so, whether you live long or live short, you will, as our old forefathers used to say, *live well*. The year now begun will be, indeed, a happy new year, as well as a hopeful year, be it new or old. It will, perhaps, be a short year in passing away, but it will be a long year in its results for good, long in the blessedness that will follow every deed done for Christ and His cause. Yes. This will be to live well and live long both in time and eternity. For,

"He liveth long, who liveth well!
All other life is short and vain;
He liveth longest who can tell
Of living most for Heavenly gain.

"He liveth long, who liveth well!
All else is being flung away;
He liveth longest who can tell
Of true things truly DONE each day."

Be such a long life yours, my very dear friends, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.