

honestly following Christ. Persevere. You may often find few with you, and many against you. You may often hear hard things said of you. You may often be told that you go too far, and that you are extreme. Heed it not;—press on. Believer in Christ, remember this! Whatever you do in religion, do it well. Be real. Be thorough. Be honest. Be true.

If there is anything in the world of which a man need not be ashamed, it is the service of Jesus Christ. Of sin, of worldiness, of levity, of trifling, of time-wasting, of pleasure seeking, of bad temper, of pride, of making an idol of money,—of all this a man may be well ashamed. But of living for his soul, caring for his soul, making his soul's salvation the principle and

chief thing in his daily life,—of all this a man has no cause to be ashamed at all. Believer in Christ, remember this!

The time is fast coming when nothing but reality will stand the fire. Real repentance towards God, real faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ, real holiness of heart and life,—these, are the things which will alone pass current at the last day. It is a solemn saying of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Many shall say in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name, and in Thy name have cast out devils, and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess to them I never knew you. Depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. vii. 22, 23.)

REV. J. C. RYLE.

Christian Miscellany.

HYPOCRITES IN THE CHURCH.

There is a class of people who say "There are some men in the church that ought not to be there; therefore I do not purpose to go into the church." I am not asking you to come into the church—not but what I believe in churches—but I am inviting you to the marriage-supper of the Lamb. We want you to come to Christ first, then we will talk to you about the church.

But you say there are some hypocrites in it. So there are, and I can imagine you saying, "Yes, there is a man here in one of the churches that cheated me out of five pounds a few years ago, and you are not going to find me in the company of hypocrites." Well, my friend, if you want to get out of the company of hypocrites, you had better get out of the world as quickly as you can. One of the twelve Apostles turned out to be a hypocrite, and there is no doubt there

will be hypocrites in the church to the end of time. But, "What is that to thee?" says Christ to Peter: "follow thou Me." We do not ask you to follow hypocrites, we ask you to follow Christ; we do not ask you to believe in hypocrites, we ask you to believe in Christ.

Another thing, if you want to get out of the company of hypocrites, you had better make haste and come to Christ. There will be no hypocrites at the marriage-supper of the Lamb. Your excuse would sound strange there, would it not? We often hear men make it down here; but before Jehovah it would sound very strange for a man to say, "Lord, Thou didst invite me to be at the marriage-supper of thy Son, but I did not accept it because I knew there were some hypocrites that professed the Gospel." Man will have no excuse when he comes to stand before God; his mouth will then be sealed.—D. L. Moody.