

more. The writer believes that Christianity, God in manifestation, cannot be too strongly cherished and emphasized, for it is the antidote for isms and all sorts of systematic schemes that build barriers between us.

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My dearly beloved grandchildren—

Though we are widely separated as regards distance, yet my feelings of affection flow towards you as ardently as if we were together. Many are the aspirations that flow towards you for your present and eternal welfare. I do not write this under an apprehension that you yourselves are unmindful of these things, but to aid your best endeavors and encourage you in that that is right. We all need incentives to goodness, and to be put in remembrance of our duty. We are too apt to be drawn off in our attention to things of this world, to the neglect of things of more importance. We, who have passed the meridian of life, feel this to have been an impediment to us, and, from experience, are authorized to counsel the young.

No greater joy can parents receive who have their children's best interest at heart, than to see them living up to principles of rectitude and righteousness, giving evidence that they live in the fear of the Lord, and are concerned to do his will in all things.

Think not that such a course is calculated to debar you from the pleasures of this life. It will only guard you against the deceptive, pleasures (so called), that must, from their very nature, leave a sting behind.

The pleasures of the glutton and drunkard, though they pander to the sensual appetites—appetites, too, that were given us for a use and good pur-

pose, and without which we could not fulfill our allotted place in this life—are certain to lead to misery and distress of body and mind.

How many are the pains and penalties of those that indulge unbridled liberty to their appetites.

So, too, of all the propensities and passions of our natures; they are implanted in us for a noble purpose, and, when kept under the restraining influence of the Spirit of Truth, they invariably bless mankind. In Christ's Sermon on the Mount, he pronounced the blessing on the meek, the pure in heart, the poor in spirit, they that mourn, they that hunger and thirst after righteousness; and the experience of all that have followed these principles have confirmed this declaration and found them to be true. While all experience shows that the practices of the opposite propensities always result in misery to the soul that gives way to them.

These blessed principles are the leaves of the tree of life that grow on the bank of that river, that flows out from under the throne of God and the Lamb, whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. The leaf of love will heal all hatred; the leaf of meekness, all haughtiness; the leaf of mercy, all unmercifulness; the leaf of justice, all injustice; and so on, we may enumerate all the graces that adorn the Christian character; and they will, if submitted to, cast out and overcome all that is wrong, and bring the soul into the kingdom of peace and happiness, and in union with God and one another.

I feel satisfied that, although young, you are beginning to feel that there are desires and propensities in your minds that are not always proper to be gratified.

Now is the time to keep them under restraint, before they grow strong by indulgence. An effort now, to take up this error, may be comparatively easy, and the blessing will attend it. Am.