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in less favoured periods. But no one is to think highly of himself, because in his own age, he falls not into the vices of former ages. A man is not necessarily a saint above David's measure; because he has not fallen, or been inclined to fall into David's sins. The true Christian rises above the common standard—not of former ages, but of his own. It is ever required of him that he do more than others,—and he is and must be,—in virtue, not of a prevailing sentiment, however introduced, and however excellent, but in virtue of a faith which contemplates Christ,—His person, His doctrine, His work, His promises, and power, and grace, and love—more sensitive than others, in his apprehension of what is evil,—more earnest in his efforts to resist and renounce it,—more pure in his feelings, and more holy in his aspirations after conformity to the mind and will of God. There are evils in thine own heart,—O professing believer,—evils which thou knowest and acknowledgest. What avails thy better knowledge or feelings, or practice, as compared with those of men in past ages, if against these thou art not daily striving? In such striving alone is there token of Christian earnestness and sincerity. And daily victories are the pledges of God's presence and working in the soul, sanctifying it now, and preparing it for future glory. Shrink not then, I beseech you brethren, from this holy warfare, but rather fight in it, from day