

Now, we come to the last point in the observance of the Sabbath day: It is progressive. There was worship in Adam's time; there was separation in the time of Egypt; and then when you come to the New Testament, a consummation of the spiritual enlargement, capacity, growth and liberty in Christ. Then talk about narrowness! You hear that every day in our papers, talking about these narrow people that want to bind us down by observance of the Sabbath. Why, the narrow people are those who are walking in their own rut, and going downward all the time. Here is true liberty in Christ, the enlargement of man's heart and life to this extent, that every single believer, young or old, is acting by example and power and presence of the Holy Spirit in him upon every one before us in the school—every child, every youth, every adult—and then upon the whole circle of the world that stands around us. What is the object of having churches and having disciples and having Sabbath Schools? "Ye are My witnesses," saith God. What is a witness to do? He is to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth about these testimonies of God he is bid to carry. And how are we telling it if we simply have a little varnish, a little veneering of religion, a little attending to the duties that have some sacred significance, and then come out into the field with frivolity and laughter, and the children making it like a circus day rather than a Sabbath Day? Oh, Sabbath School teacher, nothing is done if our pupils are not converted; nothing is done unless divine life is there. We may have interest, we may have attachment, we may have prizes secured, we may have names on the roll of honor; but unless that Divine life is in that young life and soul, nothing is there that will stand the test of time or the scrutiny of the judgment. Let us have that power so impressed that every one engaged in this glorious work shall be so reinforced from above, shall be so filled with expectation—which is not doubt, which is not hesitancy, which is not a hopefulness that sees nothing—which is the expectation of faith if a petition is made that you expect the answer and go to get it in full confidence. This is the life that lives; this is the power that believes; and when from every Sabbath School in the land every Lord's Day shall see come up unitedly from teachers, office-bearers and scholars petitions to Almighty God to protect His day in our Province, to turn the minds of judges to Himself, to turn the executors of the law into such obedience that the statute shall be put into execution—when we believe in God's power to have His word maintained, His day honored, and his life seen through the loving witnesses scattered all over this land, in every town, in every church, in every Sabbath School, then we may expect to see this Sabbath conserved and preserved for generations to come, and so we look back to see the promise of God to His ancient people and expect it to be refilled to us on obedience—that He will exalt that nation that fears His name, that He will