

indeed, a blessing of incalculable value, amid the snares and perils which abound in the world, to be kept from falling, and to be enabled "to hold fast the beginning of our confidence, steadfast unto the end." But the times in which we live require a great deal more of us. The country in which we live, and the world at large invite our sympathies and prayers and exertions; we would not, we dare not, keep aloof from the general movement. Each one of us has a part to act, a duty to perform; "and to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him "it is sin." Our association in church fellowship is a public avowal that we are no longer our own, and that we are bound to consecrate our services to the Lord. Be willing then, by all proper means, to seek the extension of the divine glory, and the advancement of the welfare of man. To every one of us is entrusted some talent. In many ways we may make ourselves useful. It is the part of wisdom, of enlightened prudence, to select the particular sphere of labour which demands attention, and each one must do for himself. But in some way, in every practicable way, be zealous of good works. While seeking to instruct the young in the Sabbath School, and in the Bible Class, while endeavouring to convey the Gospel to the ignorant and irreligious, by the distribution of tracts, and to visit the widow and the fatherless, the indigent and the wretched in their affliction, you may be the means of doing much good. We must not permit discouragements of any kind to impede our progress. If we are faithful in our stewardship, our every service will be owned at last by a faithful master. "The Lord is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name." Let us bear in mind, however, that it is not the mere abstract existence of faith that our Lord will commend and reward: it is the operations of faith, the plans of benevolence it originates and sustains, the labours it performs, the difficulties it overcomes, and the triumphs it secures. "Let us then abound in works of faith, and labours of love, and patience of hope "in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father," and "by patient continuing in well doing, seek for glory and honour, and "immortality, eternal life."

If such be our character and devotedness, we shall be like a dew from the Lord in the midst of many people. Our efforts and our influence will bless the neighbourhood where our lot is cast, and in our measures we shall act extensively for good, upon our country, and upon the world. The Lord places high honour upon us in requiring our exertions and services; in all ages he has made use of his own people in fulfilling his designs and mercy to the world. Ye see your calling, brethren, by the prayers, sacrifices and faithful labours of the