

Unkindness, whether towards ourselves or to others is very irritating. Peter's enquiry in Matt. xviii. 21 covered I believe, what the Lord must have seen to be the workings of an unkind and malevolent temper: as also we see it in Matt. xv. 23.

Indifference to others, and carefulness about oneself, is very vexing to us also—it is so selfish and cold-hearted. Jesus was tried by enough of it in His disciples. He asked them to watch with Him, but He found them sleeping; He spake of His death, but they were thinking of their place and honours in the kingdom; He spake of leaving them, but none of them asked, "Whither goest thou?" and in the ship it was of their *own* safety they thought. These were instances of cold indifference.

Ignorance is apt to try us, and make us impatient. Whoever found more of it in those He was continually teaching than the Lord? Some of the plainest lessons they had not learned; and when He spake *spiritually* or mystically to them, they listened to Him as *in the letter*—they were asking explanations of the simplest parables.

Unspirituality of mind in fellow-disciples is a trial to us. How much of this amongst His people was the Lord continually suffering! and He was always light in discovering it. We often, through vanity or self-esteem, mistake mere nonconformity with ourselves for it.

These are among the ways in which the disciples must have tried the mind of their Divine Master; and these are some of the tempers and characteristics

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