

The spring or centre of all true life by man for man is pity or compassion. The man whose aim in life is wise, is he whose eye is fixed sympathetically upon the needs of his fellowmen, and who feels bound to supply these out of the resources God has bestowed upon him. We are to expect, in every relation in life, to find occasion to compassionate and help those who come in relation to us. For this end our powers and opportunities are given us. It was this end our Lord set before His disciples when He washed their feet. They were not to lord it over one another, but to minister one to another.

And what were they to give?

Their money? That would be to give by proxy. That would be as unworthy as the man who should put an hireling to do the work he is personally commissioned to do. We must, to comply with the requirement of God upon our service, give what is within us—give ourselves. We must fight His battles, not through mercenaries, but by ourselves taking up the weapons of heavenly warfare. The whole of life is, according to one view of it, a vast charitable organization whose members are obligated to minister to one another's need. A man's intellect is superior to his fellow's that he may devise for them as a parent does for the children whose protection and education are committed to his care. Superior endowments and experience come to their possessor as parental gifts imposing parental obligations. The lesser is intended always to be blessed of the greater. Strength is to minister to weakness, wisdom to folly, hope to despondency, prudence to rashness, courage to timidity, and magnanimity to meanness. Evil is to be overcome with good, want with the plenty of compassion. This is the divine law of "supply and demand." Charity thus conceived