

have not courage to seek a personal interview, wait to hear something upon the subject from the pulpit, and wait in vain. And it is no uncommon thing to hear the complaint from those who have sat many years under a ministry that professes to believe in entire holiness, that they have scarcely heard a sermon treating expressly upon it, and have never heard it spoken of as a blessing to be received *now*.

We can sympathise with earnest preachers who are themselves anxiously seeking holiness of heart, but who shrink from preaching a truth of which they have no experimental knowledge; though we cannot but think that a frank and open confession of their state would be better, both for themselves and others, than silence. If all the leaders in Israel who are in this condition would say to the people, as Caleb said of Canaan to the twelve tribes, "Let us go up and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it," thousands would respond to the appeal with glad hearts, and soon preachers and people would enter into rest together. "I preached this full consecration for ten years," said an earnest London pastor at the recent Oxford Conference, "and never heard one believer confess its enjoyment; but when I got the blessing myself, they sought and found it by scores."

How mighty would be the influence of such Churches upon the world! One of the most serious problems of the day is how to reach the masses of our countrymen who habitually forget God, and never attend His house. Ministers cannot do it. The faithful discharge of duty to congregations already under their care demands all their time and energy; and the districts in which these masses are found are just those in which the energies of ministers are already taxed most heavily. City missionaries cannot do it. In many cases their labours scarcely extend beyond visits to the sick and dying. Those who expect large populations to be evangelized by a handful of such missionaries will be disappointed. It will never be done until *all* the Lord's people are zealous workers in His cause, telling the story of His love to their neighbours and friends, distributing religious tracts, talking and praying with the poor in their own homes, inducing them by personal invitation to attend the ministry of the Word. Here and there may be found a preacher whose natural endowments enable him to attract crowds to his ministry, and win them for Christ. But there are others who, though equally earnest, lack these popular gifts. If, however, they are successful in quickening the spiritual life of the Church, leading its members on to full salvation, sending them forth at the beginning of every week baptised afresh with the spirit of power, and burning with love for the unsaved, who will say that they are less useful than those whose labours are more directly evangelistic? A shrewd and devoted minister of former times used to say that one believer entirely sanctified was equal to ten sinners converted, and there is a sense in which the assertion is true. A faithful ambassador will never be without success in turning men from darkness to light; but if, in addition to this, he teaches believers to abide in Christ as a full and constant Saviour, he lays the foundation of steady and lasting prosperity, and will do much to prevent those disastrous declensions which so often follow a spring-tide of blessing. Dr. Adam Clarke has well said that it is