

How is it with thee? Does thy soul pant after God? Does it rouse up all its energies, and pour itself forth with intenseness of feeling? Do the divine perfections so fill thy mind, as often to make thee gaze upward with profoundest adoration? Is it joyful and invigorating to thee, to commune with the Father of Spirits?

If it is so, then it is well with thee, and thy soul is open to the influences of heaven and within thee the divine light will shine brighter and brighter unto the perfect day.

But if thou art cold and neglectful, then it is not well. However moral thy general character, — however blameless to the outward eye, thy daily transactions, — however much thou mayest be admired by society or caressed by friends, — something is wanting, and something of vital importance.

Unless Reason and Revelation are utterly false, — unless Christ, and the Apostles, and devout men of all ages, have been deluded, — however good we may be in outward things, if we love not prayer with a deep and soul-stirring love, something is wanting; and, my friend, I implore thee seriously to weigh this matter; look into thy soul, and, as in the presence of Almighty God, reflect upon these words — “WATCH AND PRAY.” — *Unitarian Tract.*

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**SELF-RULE.** — The most precious of all possessions, is power over ourselves; power to withstand trial, to bear suffering, to front danger; power over pleasure and pain; power to follow our convictions, however resisted by menace and scorn; the power of calm reliance in scenes of darkness and storms.