

O Lord JESU CHRIST, who at thy first coming didst send thy Messenger to prepare thy way before Thee ; Grant that the MINISTERS and STEWARDS OF THY MYSTERIES may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that, at thy second coming to judge the world, we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.—*Collect for the third Sunday in Advent.*



## S E R M O N.

1. Cor. iv. 1, 2. Let a man so account of us as of the Ministers of Christ and Stewards of the mysteries of God :—Moreover it is required in Stewards that a man be found faithful.

THIS is a text which it is very obvious to select and very simple to apply in treating of the subjects which will properly engage our attention upon an occasion like the present. I have not been desirous of travelling out of my way for the sake of avoiding what is plain and common, nor ambitious of attracting notice either by the adduction of any unexpected passage, or the ingenious use of any which is more familiar to the mind.

The word of God at large, ought, indeed, to be familiar to our minds. But in the whole compass of that word, we