

therefore remind you of them this day, to excite your gratitude and your praise to him, and your perseverance in doing those things which are well-pleasing to him, and which have been so profitable to us.

All things belong to God. He enables us to get a sufficiency of them in an honest way, if we seek first his kingdom and righteousness. But if we do not believe him, and trust in him, we have no such promise, independant of our turning to him. Let us not ever seek property in any way not pleasing to him. Property so procured, can never bring any blessing along with it, but only a curse. It is "hewing out cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water." It is treasuring up wrath instead of mercy against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God. "Render unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's. "Render to all, their dues ; tribute to whom, tribute is due ; custom to whom custom."\* Let us improve the talents which God has given us, by prudent care and honest diligence, working that we may have to give to him that needeth ; and bestowing our labour and our gifts well, that we may be able to render a good account of them to God. In this case he will reward us with peace and comfort here, and with good things beyond our present understanding, hereafter. And "the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned.† Let this be our case, and this the end of our conduct.

I hope what I have said and shewn to you this day, of the providence of God, will persuade you

\* Jeremiah, 2—16. Romans, 2—5. Matthew, 22—21. Romans, 13—7

† I. Timothy, 1—5.

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