

"One principal cause of the failure of so many magnificent schemes, social, political, religious, which have followed each other age after age, has been this: That in almost every case they have ignored the rights and powers of one-half the human race, viz., woman. I believe that politics will not go right, that nothing human will ever go right, that religion will not go right, except in so far as woman goes right; and to make woman go right, she must be put in her place, and she must have her rights."—*Canon Kingsley.*

"To oppose giving the franchise to women seems to me simply stupid."—*Rev. Joseph Parker.*

THE Bible is commonly used as the basis of arguments by the opponents of woman suffrage. Self-complacent men and too submissive women say: "There is no use in discussing the question. God has settled it. He said (Gen. iii. 16): 'He shall rule over thee,' and there is no use fighting against God." God did say to Eve, "he shall rule over thee," but this subserviency was a part of her curse for her sin. Man and woman were created equal. Dr. Adam Clarke says: "At their creation both were formed with equal rights, and the woman had probably as much right to rule as man." Dominion was not given to him, but to them. (Gen. i. 28.)

A part of woman's punishment for her sin was subordination to man. She lost for a time her equality, but Christ's sacrifice overcame the effects of the fall; woman, as well as man, was redeemed by Christ; therefore, subjection to man is not now an essential condition of womanhood. Woman's continued subordination to man is as sinful, after its degrading effects are made clear to her, as any other failure to free herself from the evils consequent on the fall, since Christ has made it possible for these evils to be removed.

God clearly proclaimed man's rule over woman to be an evil. It never has been anything else but an evil, and in the nature of things it never can be anything but evil. The subordination of one human soul to another, the slave to his master, the devotee to the priest, or woman to man, has always dwarfed the subordinated soul and helped to make the dominant soul selfish, narrow and arrogant. Man's rule, whether intended to be limited or complete, was imposed on woman as a punishment for disobedience to God, but woman was made free from its terrible consequences by Christ.