

ities. Become models to yourselves ; follow your own example. Yea, and, if possible this evening, let your liberality exceed that which you have manifested upon any former occasion.

The scriptures consider works of benevolence to the poor, as done to the Judge of heaven and earth ; and are more copious and explicit upon this duty, than upon almost any other. The description which Christ has left us of the proceedings of the last day, establishes the obligation of bounty beyond controversy :—*When the Son of Man shall come in the clouds of heaven, and all his holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory, and before him shall be gathered all nations ; and he shall separate them one from another. Then shall the king say unto them on his right hand, come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world : for I was hungry and ye gave me meat ; I was thirsty and ye gave me drink ; I was a stranger, and ye took me in ; naked, and ye clothed me ; I was sick, and ye visited me ; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.---And inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.* So true is it, that **HE THAT HATH PITY UPON THE POOR, LENDETH TO THE LORD.**

But how does it appear, *that what he giveth, the LORD WILL PAY HIM AGAIN ?* Or, in other words, have you any reason to believe, that what you give, from proper motives, to the needy, shall meet a blessed reward ? You have substantial reasons for such a belief. *For Whosoever shall give to drink a cup of cold water, unto one of these little ones, shall in no wise lose his reward.*

The charitable man has his reward in this life. And in the day of adversity shall be comforted by the approbation of his own conscience. It was partly this that rendered Job invincible in all his calamity. He had not made gold his hope, nor did he say to riches, *you are my confidence.* His unbounded wealth, he hoarded not like the miser, who neither shares it with others, nor enjoys it himself ; nor like the infamous profligates, squandered it on his passions and lusts ; but with a liberality, resembling that of God who gave it, scattered it in acts of benevolence, on all within the circle of his influence.

Appealing to his Maker, in the midst of adversity, he exclaims, in words nearly like the following :—viz.

I wept heretofore with him that was in affliction, and my soul had compassion on the poor. For what shall I do when God shall rise to judge ; and when he shall examine, what shall I answer him ? Did not he that made me make him also ?—If I have denied to the poor what they desired, and have made the eyes of the widow to wait ; if I have eaten my morsel alone, and the fatherless hath not eaten thereof : if I have despised him