

through the open door of the Sunday School ; and, therefore, there is a demand on the teacher that she shall utilize the short Sabbath School hour, and utilize it in the best way, so that as the sole instructor of the boys and girls she shall do it most efficiently, as the servant of the Church, and by means of the Word of God. Then I am sure there is better Bible study required, because the Bible demands it at our hands. The Bible may not stop a bullet any better than a mass-book, but it has a special sacredness to us who belong to the orthodox fold, and who believe that the Bible not "only contains, but is, the Word of God. (Hear, hear.) And so I say the Bible demands of us that we give it the very best possible treatment at our hands ; that we shall be self-denying, if need be, in order to study that book, which is the one divine book on which Jehovah has impressed His divine sanction ; which is the one book of all this world that contains within its folds the cure for sin ; which is the one book, as Coleridge said, "that finds me where I am, that explores the great recesses of my heart and my life." That book demands of us that we shall give it the very best possible treatment that is permitted by our environment, nay, that we shall even deny ourselves, and to the end that we shall become better Bible students, that we shall be willing to forego our own comforts, and, standing as teachers of that word, that we shall teach it in its integrity and its truth.

Now, I have three natural and logical divisions of my text. You have given me to speak on "better Bible study." I have prefaced it with a general word, why our teachers should study the Bible better. But now I take the three words given me and divide them in simple, logical analysis as follows : *First of all*, the Bible needs to be studied, for it is better Bible study that we need—downright, outright Bible study. There is no royal road to learning, my dear brother teachers, in the matter of Bible lore, any more than there is in the lore that comes from this great secular world around you. Where do you find in the Bible itself that God chose to put a premium on wilful ignorance or neglect of His holy word ? It demands study at our hands, and therefore the apostle admonishes us to study to approve ourselves unto God workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly divining the word of truth. And so again and again in the Old Testament, we are admonished to seriously study the Word of God. David says, "I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts"; and so there comes a strange wisdom in the life, not a part of it, something not a part of this world, a light that lighteth the mind, and so a light that comes from patient, close study of God's Word. Take the two foremost apostles of the first century—Peter and Paul. Peter was a fisherman, who left his nets and boats by the Sea of Gennesaret, and went out on his great apostolic mission. He was circumscribed, was bound to the Jewish nationality. Why ? Because not educated in the schools, not trained as a student except in the three years' tutelage of our Lord, without the advantage of