

ends ; they cannot be neglected by her members without their doing so much toward defeating those ends. To neglect them is to help to destroy them. For Christians to neglect the ordinances is to stand in the way of the conversion of sinners, of the edification of believers, of the promotion of God's glory, for which they were appointed.

It is the imperative duty of every professed follower of the Lord Jesus to attend upon all the services of the sanctuary when not prevented by obstacles which are insuperable. It is the spiritual home, and shall the children of the household desert it ?

We say to the members of the church, attend upon all the ordinances, and you honor the dear Lord whose dwelling-place is there. Attend, that you may cheer and help your brethren. Attend, that your example may draw strangers to the sound of the gospel. Attend for your own spiritual profiting, which will be best promoted there. Attend, that by your presence you may cheer and aid your pastor in preaching.

Remember, on the other hand, that your absence will dishonor your Saviour, who comes to be worshipped there. It will grieve, dishearten, and so injure your brethren. It will tend to keep strangers away from the sanctuary. It will prevent you from receiving the blessings which Jesus comes to bestow. It will chill the heart of your pastor, and almost make the words to freeze upon his lips.

Attend upon the second service of the Lord's day, for that is the time when strangers are likely to be present and may be impressed. Attend upon the meeting in the middle of the week, that the distractions of the world may be broken in upon. Be absent from the sanctuary no more than you would be absent from your daily meals, for your soul is dependent upon the one as your body is upon the other.

The habit of attending upon the house of God should be so firmly established by every Christian that he would be sorely uncomfortable if compelled to be absent. God has spoken on this matter, and we must hear : " And let us con-