

fragility—if to the evidence of the losses which our time endures, be added the consideration of *all that is to be done* within the brief limit of human life, we shall the more deeply feel, and the more readily confess that “the time is short.”—It is not enough, my brethren, that I remind you of worldly engagements—of the cares and anxieties respecting your earthly prospects which so often harass your minds and distress your hearts—of the toil that you are required daily to endure—of the weariness and watchfulness which consumes your strength and wastes your spirits,—I do not advert to these things alone in endeavouring to strengthen the conviction that for all the needful purposes of life “the time is short.” There is committed to us a higher responsibility than the provision for our daily wants,—the care and culture of the never-dying soul. We have our God to glorify not only with our lips but in our lives; we have, through the means revealed by the Saviour who shed his blood for us, a heaven to win. And in winning heaven, we escape the torments of hell; we are saved from the blackness of darkness to which the unrepentant and unreconciled are condemned for ever; we are delivered from the anguish of unquenchable fire, from the sting of the worm that never dieth.