

pressly declared, that his word shall not return to him void, but shall accomplish that which he doth please, and shall prosper in the thing, whereto he sent it.

How strong then, sir, is our encouragement to engage in circulating throughout the earth, according to our ability, a Book, which through the instrumentality of the Spirit, is thus able to change and purify the heart, and make men wise unto salvation, bringing them out of darkness, into a marvellous light, and from being the wretched slaves of the usurped dominion of Satan, making them the happy subjects of our Redeemer's righteous Kingdom.

But, sir, the argument for disseminating this Book is strengthened, when we consider, that it is an instrument, not merely powerful and efficacious, in delivering men from the power of ignorance, superstition, and corruption,—but indispensably necessary for this purpose.

We have only to take a view of the state of the Heathen World, in all ages; we have only to consider the horrid ignorance and fierce barbarity; the gloomy superstition, and abominable views, which have prevailed, and do prevail wherever the divine light of revelation has not appeared, and do prevail wherever the Bible is indispensably necessary for the improvement and happiness of man. The benefit of this blessed Book, sir, we ourselves have all our life enjoyed. We never knew what it is to be without it. Hence we are too apt to think of it with indifference, and to have an inadequate sense of its infinite importance to our race. From seeing the Sun every day, we are not struck with his exceeding utility and splendour. But what would the world be, if the Sun were to rise no more; if this globe were to be wrapt in complete and perpetual darkness?—Then, we would know the value of the blessing we had lost. But what the Sun is to the natural world, the Bible is to the moral world. If the light of revelation were to be extinguished in the earth, the spiritual darkness which would succeed, would be infinitely more dismal, and more to be deplored, than the event of the Sun's extinction in the Heavens.

Have we then, sir, the Bible to be a light unto our feet, and a lamp unto our path, and shall we not use our best endeavours to send it to those who are sitting in darkness, and in the shadow of death?—Have we tasted of the good word of God, and found that the Lord is gracious, and shall we not be disposed to shew mercy as those who have obtained mercy?—Having freely received, shall we not freely give?—Is it possible that men can feel the happy influence of divine truth on their own souls, and experience the blessedness of having peace with God, and the hope of eternal life, without feeling the necessity which is laid on them, of sending the Scriptures of truth to their Brethren, who are destitute of this Blessing, and living without God, and without hope in the world?—The love of Christ constrains us, sir, to engage in a work, which must appear to all, to be the most natural and effectual means of promoting the

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