

the heart of the believer so as to charm and attract away from Christ, for that is Satan's one great object, to get those who have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, to loving something in this world, which cast out Jesus; nailed Him to the cross, and slew Him. All the tempter's aim is to place before the believer something so attractive that will draw the heart away from Christ, become an idol. The last solemn words of John are, "Little children, keep yourselves from idols."

Usually when men speak of making an idol of anything, they mean that it has a very strong hold on the affections. We may make idols of things without knowing it ourselves, and perhaps without other people knowing it. It may be a child, it may be something we own, houses, land, money; it may be the nice and the beautiful things which money will buy, it may be articles of luxury, things which please the natural heart; there are innumerable things in this world and of it which may become idols, and the word tells us to keep ourselves from them. And the coveting them, the going out of the desire after them is idolatry.

This indeed makes the path very narrow. We cannot keep ourselves in our own strength from making idols of the things around us. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world," how can we keep our hearts from doing this? There are so many things in the world to attract our affections, to draw out our desires after them. How easy it is to get into the eager pursuit of this or that which conscience will tell us

plainly is "of the world" and not at all of the Father.

The remedy for all kinds of worldliness, covetousness, loving the world and the things of the world lies in knowing and loving Christ and having faith in Him. This is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith. The world must needs be overcome, and who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 Jno. v. 4, 5.

It was by faith that Moses when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. Heb. xi. 24-26. It was a great piece of the world that Satan offered to Moses, but "by faith he endured as seeing Him who is invisible." That is the path for us all, our faith laying hold and keeping hold of Him who is invisible, Christ filling the eyes of the heart, thus giving the things of the world their true value which is vanity of vanities.

But it is the power of the Holy Spirit which gives us this realization of the true worth of eternal things, and the true vanity of temporal things. It is the Spirit which takes the beauties of Christ and shows them to us, Who makes our faith to grasp and enjoy the things which are to be ours, things which are ours now, and Who enables us to see Him who is invisible. God can touch our earthly idols, remove them from us; He often has