

or death. So with the christian. He must feel that every doctrine, every precept of Jesus is as dear to him as his own soul, that he cannot give up one without dishonor. The expediency which sacrifices principle should have no place in his theology.

Thus believing he can give no countenance to error. He cannot as He loves His master give 'God speed' to those who are endeavoring to subvert His authority, to lower the estimation of His character, or to modify His laws. No considerations of courtesy or kindness can avail. "Though we or an angel from heaven preach any other Gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you let him be accursed." It might seem sometimes as if the modifying of some rigid tenet, the relaxing of the scriptural observance of some rite would have a tendency to produce union and thereby gain an accession of strength to the cause, but the true christian dare not go beyond, or beside what he conceives to be the word of His Master. With a "Thus it is written" and with nothing less does he feel safe.

We are thus to contend manfully, we are also to contend earnestly. In this respect we can often learn a profitable lesson from our foes. *They* are in earnest. However devilish may be their object, their spirit is intense and often rebukes the languid, half-hearted efforts we make to advance the cause of God. The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light. We must give ourselves to the matter. When the people had a mind to work then the work went on and that which had been delayed for years was completed in fifty-two days. Let our lives be subordinated to the conflict, "This one thing I do" says the Apostle Paul. Whether at Rome or at Ephesus, whether preaching or fleeing from his pursuers, whether arguing with opposers or tent-making at Corinth, whether in the temple at Jerusalem or in prison at Rome, all his powers, all his efforts were concentrated upon this one point, that Christ might be glorified in the conversion of souls.

Do we recognize this principle? Are our hopes and desires all with Jesus in this great conflict? and do we so regulate our lives, our affections and purposes, that they all may have a bearing on the end to be attained?

In the word of God we are directed as to the way in which the