

now at the domestic altar. The beauty of the Church, her crown and her throne, will be her *character*. It is the graces of her character that will make her the perfection of beauty, and without these, she never will become the joy of the whole earth. Her beauty and her power will consist in her separation from the world, in her unfeigned and enlarged charity, in the abundance of her faith and good works, in her diligence and labour to sanctify every house for a temple of the Lord, every family for a church, and every man for a member of Christ.

Brethren, it is impossible to contemplate such a consummation without feeling the conviction that before it be brought about, the people of God themselves must be very different from what they are. At present the Church has been 1800 years acquiring a character, and up to this day (with the exception of her apostolic first love) she has not acquired a character of sufficient weight to constrain the world to believe her sincere.

To prepare and furnish her for the conquest of the world, she requires no other arms than are supplied in the Scriptures, no other tactics than are taught there. The only difference and change will consist in the dispositions, the skill and the energy with which she will employ her weapons, and practice her instructions. "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty, through God, to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

In our attempts to influence public opinion upon our civil rights and christian liberties, let us take a firm stand, and, at the hazard of being upbraided as politicians, let us prove ourselves the true friends of spirituality.

*Having understanding of the times, we ought to abound in persevering activity in doing good to all as we have opportunity.*

The aspect of the age in which we live has a decided bearing on the temporal and eternal condition of mankind. Our high calling, our solemn profession, our avowed principles and the condition of the world, all demand of us that we live not to ourselves. Whatsoever our hands find to do, we must do it with all our might; the Master will soon come and reckon with us. Time is short, and there is great danger that much of our work may be left undone; the most diligent and devoted among us come far short. There must be, not only a steadfast adherence to the great truths of Revelation, but also a consistent manifestation of the practical influence of true godliness, the cultivation of a devotional spirit, and growth in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It is,