

on in further company with them. It has occurred to me that we may observe, that just in those same ways the mind and heart of Jesus were tried and grieved by His disciples in the days of His flesh, and yet He went on with them, we know, as I need not add, "*not overcome of evil, but overcoming evil with good*,"—the evil that was in *them*, with the good that was in *Himself*. I would mention some of these wrong things in them that must have grieved Him, and the influence of which, upon our own thoughts and feelings towards others, we well understand and continually experience.

*Vanity* in another tries us—an air of self-satisfaction, or the esteeming of ourselves and the putting of ourselves forth to admiration. The Lord was tried by this spirit in His disciples. The mother betrayed it, and His kinsfolk. (John ii., vii.) Peter was thus self-confident, when he said, "Though all should be offended, yet he would not." And all of them were guilty of this, when they contended who should be the greatest; and also when they *forbade* those who followed not with themselves.

*Ill-temper* is a very fretful thing; it so interferes with us. Martha tried the Lord with it, when she complained to Him of her sister; and so did the apostles when they urged Him to send away the multitude, just because their privacy and repast had been intruded upon. (Mark vi.) Any show of a *covetous*, grudging spirit is very hateful to us. Jesus must have discerned this (and therefore have had to bear with it) on such occasions as Matt. xiv. 17; xv. 33.