

they ought never to go in. May this never be said of you! Beware, oh beware, my dear young friends, lest from any cause you should have at last to utter the dread wail, "They made me a keeper of vineyards, but my own vineyard I have not kept."

In order to avoid this *be much in your closet*. That is the battle ground on which your destiny is decided. If you are right there, you will be right everywhere; if wrong there, you will be wrong everywhere. See to it that by reading, meditation, and prayer, you keep up that communion with God which will enable you to say with the saintly McChéyne, "I am better acquainted with Jesus Christ than I am with any man in the world."

Your danger will be greatly increased by the fact that though you teach, and warn others, few, if any, will ever utter a warning word to you. Your danger may be seen, and your fall proclaimed, but no warning cry will be raised, and no helping hand stretched out to pluck you back from ruin. Many a fallen minister has been maddened as he has discovered that he was the last to see his peril, and that so-called friends had watched his fall without a warning word. It is because of your spiritual solitude that I to-day point out your dangers, and with almost an agony of soul beseech you to

"Leave no unguarded place,
No weakness of the soul;
Take every virtue, every grace,
And fortify the whole."

Take care of your *character*. Some men are foolish enough to say, "They don't care what people think, or say, about them." They *ought* to care—a good name is better than great riches, and a Bishop is to be blameless, and of good repute. Whatever may be the character of your *gifts*, see that your *life* is right. Adorn the doctrine of God your Saviour in all things. Christ has received many wounds