

A WORD OF EXHORTATION.

TO THE READERS OF THE CANADIAN DAY-STAR AND THE FRIENDS OF A FREE UNFETTERED GOSPEL, SCATTERED THROUGHOUT CANADA.

Continued from page 124.

Secondly.—“As He who hath called you is holy so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.” This is another of Peter’s inspired exhortations. Indeed almost all the epistles of the New Testament are freighted and gleaming with exhortations after the same kind. Paul beseeches the saints who are at Ephesus, and the faithful in Christ Jesus, to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith they are called,” and “to walk in love.” After the same manner, also, he exhorted the Philippians, “let your conversation be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ,” and the Colossians, “Walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing,” and the Thessalonians, “walk worthy of God.” The truth implied in the exhortation is this. The faithful in Christ Jesus—or in other words—Christians are separated from the world, or as Peter expresses it in verse 9th of the 2nd chapter of his first epistle, “They are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, to show forth the praises of him who hath called them out of darkness into marvellous light;” hence, the necessity of them as such, and as strangers and pilgrims, to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, and as obedient children, not fashioning themselves according to the former lusts in their ignorance, but as he who hath called them is holy, so also was it their imperative duty, and their exalted privilege, “to be holy in all manner of conversation, for it is written, be ye holy, for I am holy.” And in the case of the “scattered strangers” what special significance, and point and power is infolded in the exhortation, in the peculiar circumstances in which they were placed. As we have seen, they were comparatively isolated and among strangers, many of them in strange countries, whose vicious habits, dark superstition, and soul-destroying errors, as the elect of God, they could not but oppose. They were thus not only separated unto God as his own elect, but being “strangers and pilgrims” many of them scattered throughout the regions specified, they were separated from former privileges and fellowships and influences; hence their influence for good upon others,