

my younger brother, now set apart for this great and holy work, will find, if you be sincere and earnest in your vocation, as I hope and believe you to be, that this text, explained at your ordination, very fitly describes what will befall you in your ministerial life. Most of your trials are yet to come. Yours is no gay holiday task, easily performed, and abundantly rewarded. Your temporal reward is not likely to be great; nor by any means so large as that of the laymen who surround you: and your labour will often be great, and, in this world, unrequited. Nor are you sent to minister to large and fashionable congregations of eager partizans, hanging on your lips, nodding with approving smiles, and applauding the words you utter, whether they be words of truth and soberness or no. You are sent to look after a few sheep in the wilderness, scattered, poor, and often ignorant, unhappily surrounded by a great number of sects, and amongst these the members of the Church of England lie here and there, scattered up and down, and in no one place many together. It will be your duty to collect, to assist, to feed, to support, to invite and win them to the truth, and warn them against heresy and error. And these poor people will not be always, it is to be feared, men of right minds and good dispositions. Some may be intemperate and lawless; some so wilful and self-conceited, that they will be with difficulty won to submit to any thing but their own will. Some will listen to you for a while gladly, and on the first difference of opinion from them will, perhaps, forsake you. But what would that Pastor be worth who should make his standard of doctrine the changing opinion of each member of his flock, instead of delivering to them the message of God in all its fulness and integrity? Shun this coward fear.

Thus you will have your trials. Weary and worn, you