

Things. And thus they are peculiarly appropriate to our purpose. You will remember where the words occur elsewhere in the Scripture. When our Lord sent forth the twelve, and the seventy disciples to preach the Gospel at first, He ordered them to take neither scrip nor purse, but to depend for their support on those among whom they sojourned, "for the labourer is worthy of his hire." And in the 1st Epistle to the Corinthians, St. Paul, when writing about the sustentation fund of the ministers, says, in apparent reference to these words of our Lord which he has quoted literally in the text "even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel." There is little doubt then that these words of our Lord had ere the date of the Epistles of St. Paul passed into a proverbial expression, that He was well known to have used these words, which St. Luke has recorded in his Gospel,—St. Luke who was perhaps one of the seventy himself, and was the friend and companion of St. Paul, and who wrote his Gospel as is supposed under the immediate supervision of the Apostle,* the Gospel itself possibly referred to by St. Paul, when in 2nd Cor. xviii. he mentions "the brother whose praise is in the Gospel." Thus then we have not only the authority of St. Paul, but if that were not enough, the authority of our Lord Himself, as recorded by St. Luke, and also by St. Matthew, an authority which derives additional force from the manner in which our Lord's words recorded by the Evangelist are quoted and appropriated by the Apostle (and "the testimony of two men is true," when we apply these words to enforce the necessity of providing those who labour in the vineyard with a share of the fruit thereof; those who feed the flock with their portion of the milk of the flock; those who, in the verse from which the text is taken, and elsewhere are compared to oxen treading out the corn of the Lord's harvest, with

* This opinion, though now discredited, rests on the authority of Origen, Jerome, Chrysostom, Ambrose, Pelagius, Primasius, Anselm, Cajetan, &c.