

tion with God. This divine message is a continual invitation, "O taste, and see that the Lord is good." Without this tasting we can never see, never be satisfied. The experimental knowledge of Jesus Christ, and Him crucified, is the true safeguard against speculative unbelief. The man who could say, "Whereas I was blind, now I see," though not fully instructed, had a simple and well-grounded faith in Jesus, which all the cavils of learned unbelief could not shake.

Another prevailing danger, wide-spread and influential, exists at the opposite extreme of opinion and feeling. We allude to the substitution of ceremonial for spiritual worship; of the authority of a portion of the Church, assuming the name and functions of the whole, for that of Christ; of the offices and sacraments; administered by a human priesthood, for the work of Christ by His Spirit upon the heart, and for His only and all-sufficient intercession. Our blessed Lord Himself, when tempted by Satan in the wilderness, met each temptation by an appeal to Holy Scripture. Let us follow his example. There is no ritualism in the New Testament. Christ is there proclaimed as the one sacrifice for sin; the one way unto the Father; the one door by whom, if any man enter in, he shall be saved. The invitation, "Come unto me," is free from all priestly or sacramental intervention.

Let us, then, dear brethren, "stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free," in loving subjection to Him our Lord and Redeemer. The time is short, and few are the hours in which any can work. May none linger idly on the outside as mere on-lookers, lest the sun go down upon them ere they are aware. Enter into the vineyard and work. Be diligent and in earnest, pressing toward the mark for the heavenly prize. The Lord, who appoints the lot of his children, knows all their difficulties and trials. His purposes towards them are purposes of mercy and of faithfulness; and as they watch, and serve in patience and in hope to the end, He gives them the victory through faith; and, in his redeeming grace, He will crown them with an eternity of perfected love and peace and praise.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting,

G. S. GIBSON,

*Clerk of the Meeting this Year.*

