

good and proper time, but I can do nothing at all towards my salvation." All such thoughts and sayings are contrary to Scripture exhortations and commands, and daringly presumptuous. True, you cannot do anything *meritoriously*, to secure that great salvation, but you, and all others can comply with the divine requisitions,—“Ask and it shall be given you;”—“Cease to do evil, learn to do well.” You can read and meditate on the sacred Scriptures, and attend diligently and attentively on their public ministrations, and on other external means for obtaining wisdom and grace. There is the utmost encouragement to adopt such a course, for infallible and unchangeable wisdom has declared,—“Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.”

To all disobedient neglecters of the great salvation the following, with many other similar warnings and exhortations, are expressly applicable:—“Behold now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation;”—“Boast not thyself of to-morrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth;”—“See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven.” Oh! may all such negligent persons deeply regard these awful words, awake to a view of their imminent danger, and without the least further delay, earnestly strive to avoid the impending wrath and punishment; and by persevering in fervent supplication, obtain “the Spirit of Christ,” and thus secure those gifts and graces which will make for their present and everlasting peace, before they be forever hidden from their eyes.