

such reports were not received, he would have no temptation to labor for such result, for, if really led of God in the matter, for the others not to recognize the fact would be proof positive to him that they were not led of the Spirit, and therefore that their approval or disapproval was a matter of perfect, restful indifference.

We remember that once at one of our city meetings an enthusiastic worker announced his intention to do some strong work the coming week, and called on all the rest to stand by him. We at once remarked that we asked no one to stand by us in any work we were given to do, for if it was of God, all who were spiritual must stand by it from the necessities of the case. Hence our only concern was to know with absolute certainty that the work was of God, then we could defy the spiritual not to endorse it, but as to all others we did not covet their backing.

This law of unity has been fully illustrated thus far in the history of the Association. Lonely ones have, here and there, been sent to cities, towns and villages as the accredited ambassadors of heaven, and when they have appeared at our annual gatherings they and their work have been recognized and rejoiced over without hesitancy or preliminary formalities. But when the appointment has not been of the Holy Ghost, or when they have, after *running well* for a season, drifted off into legalism, that recognition has been withheld without trial or discipline. The Holy Spirit has made the facts of the case publicly evident to all the spiritual, so that without hesitation they could pronounce righteous judgment upon them.

How utterly untrammelled are workers in this movement! They have but One to please, and in pleasing Him they may be and are utterly reckless concerning the opinions of all others. There is no Stationing Committee, no Presbytery, no officials, no public sentiment, or single individuals to consider in any or all acts of obedience to the Holy Ghost.

Of course there may be many a fight of faith to keep loyal to this fact; for many are the authoritative claims put forth for our consideration, many of

them apparently backed by emolument and even pains and penalties, but it is possible to have perfect, continuous victory over them all, and so to walk worthy of God unto all pleasing.

We well remember what a faith battle we had to fight concerning the Association at the first camp-meeting, when the EXPOSITOR was adopted by the Association, and a salary guaranteed us. It was expected by the promoters of the scheme that in giving ourselves to evangelistic work, after the modern idea of that work, there would be a considerable revenue from collections which would enable the Association to meet their assumed obligations without loss to any, and we honestly hoped to be able to meet such apparently reasonable expectations. But it was not long before we perceived that the way of the Spirit was not after this human plan, but that following His way would be to disappoint utterly all such expressed wishes.

Now, it was no light duty to fly in the face of such plans so unitedly discussed and so solemnly adopted, and then look forward to disappointed looks and possibly hostile acts at the next annual camp-meeting. Moreover, the keenness of the conflict was increased by the knowledge that friends would likely be called on to pay more money than they expected to part with. All these things and more we fully realized, as led of the Spirit into the wilderness, we were tempted of the devil. "All these things will I give you if thou wilt fall down and worship me," is no idle nursery story to the truly spiritual. But we were true to God, and so faced the friends next year with a collection report which showed a balance over travelling expenses so insignificant that it required some nerve to refer to it.

And the disappointment on the part of others was quite up to our expectations. Indeed, a private meeting was called, to discuss us in our absence, at which it was stated that we were a miserable failure as an evangelist, and this, too, by parties on whose circuits we had labored. For a time we walked in that campground conscious that we scarce retained the sympathy of any.

But the God whom we trusted and