

pure. This living soul has also the business of controlling this mind, making that to be strong and quick, active and pure. And it is only as this living soul asserts itself, will not be swayed by the body or by the mind—it is only thus that you have a man; only thus that you have a woman.

Those who have to do with machinery know instances upon instances where, in familiar language, the machine "runs away." The locomotive runs so fast on a down grade that for a moment it escapes from the hand of the driver. The steam which is called the power is not the power; for it is crowded back on itself by the impetuous force which the downward grade has given. Precisely in the same way one sees intellectual action, where the vigor of a man's habit of reasoning or where the distinctness of his memory gets the control of his conscience, gets the control of his will, and conscience and will are ridden over by the mere force of the intellectual machine. And in every day, in every hour of the day, you see some poor wretch who has let a bodily appetite so overmaster him that, as Paul says, he does the thing that he does not want to do. He does what he knows he ought not to do.

The body has become too strong for the soul, as on that downward grade the weight of the engine was too much for the steam. With perfect correctness we then call him a "poor devil." All these are instances where in the man the divine power has been lost. It is fair to say that the man has ceased to be a man, in the true interpretation of manhood. For the man appears only where the soul masters the mind and the body. The man appears where the true will achieves its real purpose. The man appears where the purpose of God is carried out. As Paul says, in that noblest epigram of the New Testa-

ment, to will and to do God's good pleasure, here is the sign of the present God.

One hears a great deal in our time of better education of hand and eye. All right! But I wish we could always manage, in this mere sharpening the edge of the tool—for it is nothing more—to give boy or girl a deeper sense of who it is who is to use the tool; how great, how unmeasured is the power of the boy or the girl! If we could lead along a boy or a girl from day to day in this sense of possible mastery, if we could really make them believe that in the temptations which are likely to befall them they can really tread on serpents and scorpions, and that nothing shall by any means hurt them, we should not so much mind if the edge of the tool were not of the very sharpest.

When Daniel Boone made his forest home he owed more to the strength of the blow by which he drove his ax, he owed more to the precision with which the ax alighted in its preordained place, than he owed to the sharpness of the tool. And these boys and girls of ours are to succeed or are to fail according as it is the infinite power of the child of God which undertakes the duties of manhood or womanhood.

This is the true lesson when a great man dies, or a great woman. Little people ask in a little way, "How could she do what she did, or he?" The great teachers answer, "She did it. Because she was a child of God; she could do what she set out to do." Sons of God do not stop or turn backward from the plough. And any boy or girl who will try the great experiment has this victory open. "I control my body; it shall do what I command. I control my mind; it shall think things which are pure, which are lovely, which are of good report; it shall not think things which are base or mean and in any shape wrong.