

Nay, then, It is for thee more than for them; for they do not so much need the help of the Scriptures as you, that are tossed in the midst of the waves of worldly business. Neither can it be possible that any man should, without great fruit be perpetually conversant in this spiritual exercise of reading." And again he says:—"Let us not neglect to buy ourselves books, lest we receive a wound in our vital parts. But what, say they, *if we understand not those things* which are contained in those books? What gain we then? Yes, surely it cannot be that thou shouldst be alike ignorant of all thou readest; for, therefore hath the Spirit of God so dispensed this word that publicans, fishers, tent-makers, shepherds, and goat-herds, plain unlettered men may be saved by these books; lest any of the simpler sort should pretend this excuse, that all things which are said should be easy to discern; and that the workman, the servant, the poor widow, and the most unlearned of all others, by hearing the Word read, might get some gain and profit." And the same father elsewhere says: I beseech you that you come speedily hither and hearken diligently to the reading of the Holy Scriptures, and not only when you come hither but also at home. Take the bible into your hands, and by your diligent care reap the profit contained in it.