

## S E R M O N .

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ACTS v, 39, 39.

“Refrain from these men, and let them alone; for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought; but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it, lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.”

SUCH was the advice to the Jewish Council, given by Gamaliel, one of themselves, “a Pharisee, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people.” Such was his advice to the Council, when Peter and the other Apostles were brought before them; accused of teaching in the name of Jesus, and filling Jerusalem with their doctrine, and intending to bring, as they said, Christ’s blood upon them. It was a sensible advice and worthy of being followed; and such is the advice which I now wish to give to those who are opponents of Temperance Societies, that they may beware what they do, lest they also be found even to fight against God.

I also wish to address some observations to those, who, though not avowedly opposing Temperance Societies, are, in any way, by precept, example, or otherwise, countenancing the use of intoxicating drink, nor are using their influence, nor exerting their power, nor employing any means to resist, and withstand, and put down the usages and customs, which lead to intemperance, and keep up, and perpetuate its evils in the world.