

I then thought of the Great Witness of all the witnesses, sent of God to bear witness to the truth,—our adorable Lord and Saviour, and of the awful indignities, heaped upon him for no other reason but meekly bearing witness to the truth. I then looked to his chosen witnesses, whom he clothed with divine authority and power, to go into all the world “to preach and testify that it is he which is ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead”—to bear witness to the truth; and looked back to all the prophets who “bear witness of him,” and reflected upon the manner they were all treated, by an ungrateful world. Not only was their testimony not believed, but they were beaten, sawn asunder, destitute, tormented, and afflicted. Not only did they evince to the world their candor by “praying night and day with tears,” and suffering much privation during life, but, that their testimony might stand, they sealed it with their own blood. All this, however, was working out for them “a far more exceeding and an eternal weight of glory.” What an illustrious phalanx of witnesses they present, standing, as they do, associated with Him who “is the express image of the invisible God”—“the first born from the dead of every creature.”

Every name, thus highly honored of God, in the estimation of all good men, the angels of God in heaven, and the Almighty Father of all, is as far above all the kings, lords, and potentates of this earth, as the heavens are above the earth. They have honor, which death, the grave, and hades cannot tarnish—honor that comes down from God. “He who shall honor the Son, shall my Father honor,” said the Great Teacher.

You do not suppose, I presume, that you will ever get the honor of this world by bearing witness to the truth; for if you should, you would not resemble those witnesses to which I have alluded; nor can you ever get a large amount of the goods of this world for bearing such testimony; but you may get a competency, and eternal life in the world to come. This is enough.

You say you are young. I am by no means old myself; nor have I any great experience to boast of. Not only so, but you have had great advantages compared with those which have surrounded me. You have received a liberal education in early life, and thus brought up even with the improvements of the age at the start. I was brought up comparatively in ignorance, and what little education and knowledge I have has been acquired since I had a family, and in great poverty.

I therefore do not take upon me to advise my brethren of the editorial ranks what course they should pursue. If you, at any time, should