

finger to the sky. *That* stirred me, and I had no rest till Jesus gave me rest.

The judgment-seat is coming. Fellow Christian, no question will be raised there about thy standing, about thy salvation. As to safety thou art already passed from death unto life, and wilt not come into judgment; but as to service, thy work will be judged. The judgment is by fire. Whatsoever stands that trial stands to thy credit—if nothing stands, then thy works will all be lost though thou thyself art saved as by fire.

There are two kinds of works—one class symbolized in scripture under the heading of wood, hay, stubble; the other gold, silver, precious stones. Every work is on the one side or the other. You will observe that wood, hay, and stubble are greatest in quantity. But it is not quantity that the fire regards; a ton of hay is as easy and as surely burned as a pound. Many in our day have the greatest regard for quantity—great works, much activity. How little the striving after the pure gold, the silver, and the precious stones! How mixed is the life-work of the best man! A layer of wood, a grain of gold, then a large quantity of hay, then a little silver, plenty of stubble, how few precious stones: but the fire sifts all! At that awful catastrophe at Abergele, where railway carriages and living men and women were burned to ashes, diamonds, gold watches, and silver ornaments were found afterwards among the rubbish. The peer could not be distinguished from the servant; wood could not be separated from bone; but the diamond was still bright, and the gold and silver still precious. What a happy day is coming to every christian! He will be so glad to see in one blaze, as upon one funeral pile, all that in his life ever dishonoured his Lord, or was not done with a single eye: only that will reappear in glory which was to God's glory here, and he, already glorified, can at that tribunal appreciate nothing but what is in harmony with glory.

When at school our great ambition was to be first in the class. Who will be first then of all the class of Christians? Very different will be God's order then from our order now! The great of earth and preachers (even those who were of greatest eminence) perhaps giving place to some poor old starving widow, or some little child. I am convinced that many of those who are called great and well known and honoured Christians, will in that day, as to reward for the single eye, be far behind some poor, weak, despised ones of earth, whose power was in the secret place with God. God judges with righteous judgment.

Rich Christian, what of thy gold then? will it be accounted stubble in the glory? or art thou exchanging it now into the currency of heaven? Were I to travel in a foreign land, I could not get on very well with my British money. Even in England those coming from Scotland find it difficult to exchange Scotch notes. Before we go abroad we change as much money as we may require into the coin of that realm. Friend, this is for what thy life here is still given: "make to yourself friends of the mammon of unrighteousness, that when ye fail they may receive you into everlasting habitations." So said the Master, and many disciples have wondered and not understood the passage.

It is simply "exchange your money into the currency of heaven."

"The mammon of unrighteousness," that is to say, in the Jewish economy it was a sign of a righteous man that his basket and store were full, that he had plenty of cattle, that he was rich. Now, since Christ's rejection it is not so. The unrighteous have God's money in this age. The normal lot of the Christian is poverty; nowhere to lay the head, since there was "no room in the inn" for the Master. But suppose a man with a large fortune gets converted, what is he to do with his mammon of unrighteousness? Is he to hoard it up and add to it, and die a rich man?