

designs, you assume all the credit to yourself, and give not to God *the honour due unto his name*, or when riches increase you *set your heart upon them* ; if you are looking to the present state as your rest, and not desiring or preparing for a better ; if you have given your heart to vanity and not to God, and are living to yourselves and not to Him ; if you deny yourselves in nothing because he has forbidden it, and perform no action from a design to please him and a regard for his authority ;—then are you in a condition which angels regard with pity, and fiends with malignant joy. You are guilty of a wilful violation of the First and Great commandment, and liable to all the penalties denounced against it,—for you love not God *with all your heart*.

To whatever subterfuge you may have recourse, and whatever palliations you may offer, you cannot escape from the charge, while the law of God stands unrepealed, and his equitable character as governor of the universe remains unchanged. Both stand out against you in terrible array : and unless they be withdrawn, you have nothing to expect but the execution of the sentence, and nothing before you but a *fearful looking-for of judgment and of fiery indignation*. What plea can you advance in arrest of judgment ? Will you say that, convinced of your error and your guilt, you will for ever renounce and abandon them both ? With whatever sincerity you may have cherished this idea, it will not avail to extricate you from danger. God *requireth that which is past*. He cannot renounce his holiness, or suffer