

enquiry, what was yet wanting to complete his righteousness, but our Lord, to discover to him and others the evil that lurked under these false appearances, told him he yet lacked one thing and that if he would be perfect he must go and sell his estate, distribute the money to the poor and follow Him, and then he should have everlasting treasure in Heaven. The reward offered for the sacrifice of this man's riches when he found it was indeed his wealth that should purchase it by bestowing it as our Lord desired and his sorrowing at the terms and of course refusal of them showed that the true spirit of Christianity was not in him, nay, that the devil indeed had yet power over his heart, for if he had faith in Christ he never would have declined an immortal crown of glory for any earthly riches whatever.

In the 9th and 10th verses of the chapter I have taken my text from are also these words, "use hospitality, one to another without grudging as every man hath received the gift, even so minister one to another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." Whatever be our circumstances in this world, whether wealthy or poor, we are undoubtedly stewards of the Great Lord of all, and as undoubtedly will have to render an account of our stewardship at the dreadful day of reckoning and judgment, everyone according as hath been given unto him. Yet alas, how few think of this moral certainty and are still more criminal in the eyes of God, if knowing it they neglect it, if they know it not they are ignorant of the great word of truth, the Bible, but let them I pray take heed ere too late lest they should be called to render an account that would doom them to eternal misery.

There are few of us so blind but we must perceive the superfluous expenses mankind enter into to gratify their pride and their passions. The very expense of superfluities that are unnecessary to their comfort or happiness would be sufficient to support many poor, honest and industrious families. But there are many men such gross and brutish sensualists as disgrace the beautiful order of our creation, that it seems nothing would rouse them to either a sense of their own infamy or induce them to perform one heavenly act of charity, to mitigate one crime of their