

piety at home calls for *truthfulness* in every thing at any cost. One word of falsehood will shake a child's confidence in its parent, and may lead to ruinous results. The company invited to our families should be carefully considered. Disparaging remarks concerning ministers or church members, made in the hearing of our children, are like the sowing of thistles in our garden.

Of those nominal professors who lean towards the customs and maxims of men of the world, who are so absorbed in worldly-mindedness as to find no time for worship in the morning, and yet if an acquaintance meets them in the street, can afford to spend far more time than would be required in leading their household to God's altar, and even often ere they return home at night, their little ones are in bed—of such all we can say is, that it would be infinitely better for the cause of Christ if they had no connection therewith. Our Lord said, "He that is not with Me is against Me, and he that gathereth not with Me, scattereth." "I would thou wert cold or hot; so then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth."

Let there be consistent piety at home, increasing prayer to the God of promise, then there will be accessions to the church from every family. "One shall say I am the Lord's, and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob." Where the commands of our Lord are not heeded, where there is no piety at home, family baptism is a solemn mockery. It is like a man marking sheep as his, and then leaving them to go their way, it may be to be destroyed by wolves. Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, then will He make good His rich promise, "They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them."

#### GIVE GOD YOUR CARES TO KEEP.

We do not need to bear our sins, for Christ has borne them on the cross. Nor do we need to bear our own cares, for

He is the bearer of our cares as well as of our sins. "He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows."

"If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous," so that we have only to take our sins to Him that they may be forgiven.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins." In like manner let us go to Him with our cares. He is as willing to take them from us as our sins. Let us not keep them to ourselves, nor try to bear them with our own strength.

Why should we insist on bearing our own cares, when he is so ready to bear them for us? Why do we magnify them, and multiply them, and brood over them, as if in so doing we could relieve ourselves, or make them seem fewer and lighter? Let us go with them at once to Him; knowing that it is as self-righteous to keep our cares as our sins from Him. Let us go to Him "with thanksgiving," as well as "prayer." Oh, how thanksgiving lightens all burdens and scatters all shadows! How quickly care leaves us when we rebuke it with "Bless the Lord, O my soul!"—*H. Bonar, D. D.*

Here is an utterance that has a sunbeam in it; "The Lord's mercies are new every morning," What an assurance this is to carry with us in all our way-faring through this world! The future is always dark to us. The shadows brood over it. A veil hides it from our sight. What is under the shadows, what is beyond the veil, what is advancing out of the impervious mist, none of us can know. We have no anxious questions to ask. This is enough for all that is coming: "The Lord's mercies are new every morning." The morning yet to break upon us may be heavy with storms. No matter; the new mercies will not fail. Come, live a comforted, happy and thankful life! Don't borrow trouble. Don't be cast down with care or work. Take up each day as it comes, certain of this, that whatever it lays upon you to do or bear, it will bring new mercies for new needs.—*A. L. Stone, D. D.*