

high profession becomes but as "sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." Our creed, *however scriptural*, will be perfectly powerless if it be not animated by a vital spirit. We can bring no glory to God by defending his character and prerogatives before men, if we do not make our acknowledgments with obedient hearts in His own presence. We must acquire the habit of continually *looking up to God*. Did we avail ourselves of this high privilege as we ought, we should witness in our churches very different results. How few comparatively, enter the sanctuary, with a confident expectation, and a strong desire for any thing beyond the ordinary round of stated engagements. Edification in general is expected, but, that God himself should come near to touch the preacher's heart, with living flame, to give silence and solemnity to the hearers, that he should veil this world from our view, and make every heart tremble beneath the felt action of the powers of the world to come,—that there should be a movement of souls to the cross, that there should be the earnest tearful look, the sigh of contrition and the inspiration of hope—and many added to the church of such as are saved—this is not looked for. All this may be regarded by us as quite possible, if God should pour out upon us His Holy Spirit. But do we at all expect such results, as the gracious return of looking to God in prayer? The prosperity of our churches is dependent not on the prayers of ministers alone, but still more expressly on the prayers of the people to whom they minister. It is an unquestionable fact that God would be enquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them. He will give us no answer, until there be a distinct and intelligible call. He will send no day spring from on high, until we watch for it, as those who watch for the morning. "Ye therefore that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence, and give him no rest." Let us set the house in order for his advent, and with united, fervent and continued prayer, beseech Him to arise and come. O Lord! send now prosperity. Make no tarrying, O our God!

*The times in which we live require that we cultivate a good understanding among the people of God in whatever denomination they are found. The friends of Christ should know one another, and lighter shades of difference should not keep them at variance. The enemies of christianity know well how to avail themselves of our discords. We ought to unite as far as we can, in promoting the interests of Christ. The discussion of our differences should not be laid aside, nor should any such connexion be formed as to require it. But when any such discussion is entered upon, it ought to be conducted with modesty, frankness and candour, and men of understanding will find their account in it. However, it ought to be our great concern, not*