

those who imbibe its principles and obey its precepts, it appears an inexhaustible fountain of happiness. "There are given to us exceeding great and precious promises, whereby we are made partakers of the divine nature." Tho' surrounded with trials and temptations, and often called to pass "thro' floods and fires," it is still our privilege to be always happy. The divine promises are suited to every condition of the christian, abundant in their number, expressed in the clearest and kindest language, and secured as to their accomplishment by the oath and promise of the immutable Jehovah.

Finally, we should study the *whole* Bible. Whatever God has in his wisdom thought proper to write, we may be assured is proper for us to read. "The things which are revealed are for us and for our children." There is not a history, nor an anecdote, nor a parable, nor an illustration, nor a prayer, nor a prophesy, nor any thing else in the Bible that can be treated as unimportant or neglected with impunity. Every thing has its use. "ALL Scripture is given by *inspiration* and is *profitable*." Were it needful to present any motives to the performance of this duty, it would be sufficient to mention the great mercy and condescension of God in thus giving us a Revelation of his will, and our infinite obligations to him. But our own best interest is also connected with it. Those christians in all ages who have advanced most rapidly in holiness, who have followed most closely the footsteps of their divine Redeemer, who have been most resigned in adversity and most happy in prosperity, and the most useful in their master's cause, have always been those who have delighted most in the study of the word of God. We would urge all professors of Religion whatever be their age, rank or station to consider how much their *usefulness* depends upon their having the "word of Christ dwelling in them richly in all wisdom." Where there exists no desire to be useful in the cause of Christ, we may be assured there is no piety. This desire however needs to be continually strengthened, and a proper attention to the Word of God, inasmuch as it is the grand instrument in sanctification, would increase the christians desire of doing good, teach him how to carry it into execution, and actually enable him to do so. Sabbath Schools, Bible Classes, and Revivals, open a field for the exercise of christian benevolence of boundless extent, for the cultivation of which the essential requisite is scriptural knowledge combined with ardent piety. It is, dear brethren, that our churches may be well supplied with efficient Sabbath School Teachers, of which there is at present such a lamentable deficiency; it is that parents may add to the interest and usefulness of those institutions, by leading their children in the study of the Bible; proving to them by their own example that it is the most precious of all books, the study of it the most delightful of all employments, and a sweet relief from the cares and business of life; it is that Bible Classes may be established in every section of the Church of Christ, and that all the people of God may be qualified to impart that religious instruction which is so universally required, in connection with all the other advantages which, with the blessing of God, would result from it, that we now earnestly and affectionately urge you to a more diligent study of the Sacred Scriptures.

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