

which were cast on him, will be thrown on us also.— Those that received our Lord and his doctrine, will receive and hear us for his name's sake. The poor, blessed be God, as our present meetings abundantly testify, will receive the Gospel, and the common people hear us gladly; whilst those that are sitting in Moses's chair, and love to wear long robes, being ignorant of the righteousness which is of God by faith in Christ Jesus, and having never felt the power of God upon their own hearts, will be continually crying out against us as madmen, deceivers of the people, nay moreover, as acting under the influence of evil spirits.

But he is unworthy the name of a minister of the gospel of peace, who is unwilling, not only to have his name cast out as evil, but also to die for the truths of the Lord Jesus. It is the character of hirelings and false prophets, who care not for the sheep, to have all men speak well of them. "Blessed are you," says our Lord to his first apostles, and in them to all succeeding ministers, "when men speak all manner of evil against you falsely, for my name's sake." And indeed it is impossible but such offences must come, for men will always judge of others according to the principles from which they act themselves. And if they care not to yield obedience to the doctrines which we deliver, they must necessarily, in self-defence, speak against the preachers, lest they should be asked that question which the Pharisees of old feared to have retorted on them, if they confessed that John was a prophet, viz.— Why then did you not believe in him.

In all such cases we have nothing to do but to search our own hearts; and if we can assure our consciences before God, that we act with a single eye to his glory, we are cheerfully to go on in our work, and not in the least to regard what men or devils can do unto us.

But to return. You have heard what various thoughts were handed about concerning Jesus Christ, whilst here on earth; nor is he otherwise treated, now he is exalted to sit down at the right hand of his Father in heaven. A stranger to Christianity, was he to hear that we all profess to hold one Lord, would naturally