

## SERMON.

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In a peculiar sense it is the glory of the Gospel, that it manifests its power in renewing, sanctifying and refining character. In common with all other systems which embody truth, Christianity presents its theoretic principles, which, in themselves, are sound and worthy of all admiration. But, in connection with these theories of virtue and religion which stand before us in the Bible, it is always and emphatically urged upon us, that they can be revealed in their true beauty and power only when they have entered into real life, and have brought forth fruits of uprightness and righteousness before the eyes of men. Hence, it is not to the abstract or ideal graces which are delineated on its pages, that the word of God directs attention, when it invites us to take knowledge of the blessed influence of true religion, but to the living men who, in their walk

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