

make others good ? Impossible. Without faith it is impossible to please God, or work for Him or glorify Him. The poor, purposeless, unstable, faithless soul never accomplishes anything, because, in opposition to the law of God and human nature, he is attempting to make others believe what he does not believe himself. Brother, you must have faith in the Bible as the Word of God, faith in the soul as capable of salvation, faith in the blood of Jesus, as bringing salvation, faith in God as willing salvation ; and faith in the Eternal Spirit as striving with you to impart salvation. Without this faith your words will die upon your lips, and men will say to you with truth " physician heal thyself." But with faith comes power, and with power, victory, conquering kingdoms, casting out devils, overcoming the world, and doing good in the salvation of men.

" Faith holds no parley with unmanly fears,
Where duty calls she confidently steers ;
Faces a thousand dangers at her call ;
And, trusting in her God, surmounts them all."

Men of *defective views of truth* will not do good. We refer, of course, to the great work and object of the Christian ministry. " Sanctify them *through Thy truth*. Thy word is truth." " We can do nothing against the Truth, but for the Truth." The great instrument for the regeneration of the world is this truth,—the truth concerning ourselves, the truth concerning sin, the truth concerning God and human destiny, the truth as it is in Jesus. True, this truth cannot work without us, but neither can we work without it, just as the telescope cannot discover a star without the astronomer, and the astronomer cannot do without the telescope, just as the sword cannot win a victory without a trained soldier, but neither can the soldier do without the sword. We are " fellow-workers together with God," therefore, in proclaiming the truth, and the instrument is as essential as the agents. Where have men succeeded when the truth has been rejected ? It is impossible that they could succeed. We shall always find Socinians, Sceptics, Neologists, who deny the evangelical truth of the Gospel, ridiculing the sanctification and holy zeal which the truth produces. They who go to do good to the souls of men without the healing leaves which God has provided for the sores of this corrupt world, are either grossly ignorant of their work, or they are guilty schemers and impostors, daubing the wall with untempered mortar, and attempting to heal the bitter fountain without the prophet's salt.

Therefore, we may say in the next place, that men will not do good unless they have wisdom in their work. What a weary useless drudgery do we see many parents, Sabbath school teachers, and Christian minister going through, because they neither know their own nature nor the nature of those on whom they wish to enforce the truth. It is like an ignorant person going to manage a piece of artillery. It is like the blind man going to direct the telescope. Oh, let us remember that " he that winneth souls must be wise," taught by the Spirit and trained to the holy warfare ! " Where were you educated ?" was a question said to be put to the great preacher of London. To which Mr. Spurgeon replied, " Well, nominally, I was educated at school, but in reality in my own closet, and in my summer rambles, observing men and manners." Just so. A man of that kind of wisdom, when guided by the Spirit of God, will, at all times know how to wield the truth. He will succeed, and " love's labour" will not be " lost," as it so frequently is by those who neither know themselves nor the subjects on whom they have to operate. They that be *wise* according to this wisdom of the just, and which God alone can direct and use, shall turn many to righteousness and shine as the brightness of the stars for ever.

Men who are *defective* in zeal will not succeed. The world seems to like enthusiasm in its proper place, and is willing to excuse a thousand