

there is no Devil or Evil Spirit; then how do they account for their evil thoughts and actions? If there is one, then ask yourself what would be most likely his first object. To keep us from knowing God. He will try as he did with Adam to persuade us that some one of His attributes are superior to the other—either His mercy will save us without the appointed means, or His love will show itself in a different way from what He has told us himself, or His justice did not require that He should come himself, as He has done. These are the wicked suggestions which he deludes us with. Are they not the same as the one with which he tempted Adam? “Ye shall not surely die;” but has that prevented us from dying? Although Adam, like his children, was foolish enough to believe him, still, has it altered the sentence? Does not every day, hour, minute, and second testify to the truth of God and the success of the Devil’s works?

Now, take an example of any good work,—we will say the building of a church. Look at the way Solomon’s Temple was built. Look at the offerings that King Solomon brought to God before he commenced to build it. Then see how the people answered to Solomon’s call in Kings 3, 5. Hiram says:—“I have considered the things which thou sentest to me for, and I will do all thy desire; my servants shall bring down the timber from Lebanon to the sea.” And all he asks in return is food for his men. See the gold that the Queen of Sheba brought. Now, look at the way we build churches to the Lord. First, the Devil tries, by making the congregation who wish to build it quarrel among themselves, to prevent it being built at all. Then, when the time has come that God chooses the church shall be built, he does all he can by his devices so to influence them and their work as to make it a temple for God in *name* only, for one man will give the land for the purpose of improving his property; the money will be given by the