

preacher. Another leaf of the Acts must be turned. In chapter v. between the 12th and 32nd verses of that chapter, we have detailed to us the following divinely attested items:

1st. By the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were wrought among the citizens of Jerusalem. So much were the people impressed with the inspired healing power of the apostles, that they brought the sick into the streets and placed them upon couches, that if nothing else at least the shadow of Peter might overspread some of them.

2nd. Very many came out of adjacent cities to Jerusalem bringing the sick and those who were troubled with demons or unclean spirits; "and they healed them every one." The church at Jerusalem was inspiringly directed and hence divinely empowered to exhibit the true benevolence and grace of the Lord Jesus.

This fact, or the important lesson it so powerfully enforces, has not sufficiently arrested any portion of the professing world in these days of departure from the truth. The plain and practical lessons that Jesus gave in respect to assisting the distressed, providing for the sick, &c.—the precepts laid down and exhortations given by Paul and other inspired teachers, relative to this developement of the power of the gospel—lead us to believe that the truth suffers because of the lack of such visible, tangible, forcible, irresistible demonstrations of it. The Lord will never have a people who can fully enjoy him nor faithfully perform all his work until they carry out his requirements in all things. How grandly attractive would Christ's church be in British America at this moment, if it could be regarded as an enlarged heavenly Society which would look after, care for, and minister to the sick and the destitute, the poor and the afflicted! All so-called Benevolent Societies, so rife at this day, and which in numerous instances are instruments to *flatter the rich out of their money*,—all such expediences would be effectually discontinued, and the one, true, apostolic, and divine Society shine in all its pristine transparency and power. But of this at another time and in another connexion.

3rd. The high priest and all in his interest were filled with deadly opposition to the apostles when they saw how little they regarded their late charge and threat to speak no more in Jesus' name. The Sadducees and the high priest were linked together in their ambitious and proud indignation, "and they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison."

4th. The battle not being between the apostles and a company of Sadducean scribes and priests, but between the true High Priest in