

But, on the other hand, there is a sin under which mostly all other sins may be classed—an in-born and all-prevailing sin, wide, broad and deep—the sin of *covetousness*, the “root of all evil.” This sin will undermine and ruin the fairest structure; it will overtop and hide all good graces; it blighted Paradise of old. “We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out,” is a truth which, if rightly reflected upon, will cut the sin of covetousness to the quick. Lay not up then unnecessarily either for yourselves or a future generation. That generation will be amply provided for; because summer and winter, seed time and harvest will never cease. Recollect that money is a thing to be kept in circulation, and not to be hoarded. It is one of the most precious material talents God has given us. Its value is so great, its means of doing good so unlimited, and the claims upon it so many and so pressing, that we are blameable, in a manner, if we allow a single shilling to remain idle for a single day. Therefore I would quote to you the words of John Wesley:—“Make all you can—save all you can—lend all you can.” As I said before, make the Bible the rule of your life. Here is a bank for you which will never break down—a bank of deposit, and bank of issue. No means of notation that we have can ever estimate its capital. Its dividends are sure. It has a *rest* laid up for those who adhere to its rules and regulations, which will, as a bonus, be hereafter distributed to them with a liberal hand; and its “promises to pay” are all secured in the records of Heaven by the word of Him who is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever—endorsed by thousands of his saints who still walk this earth, and by the mighty cloud of witnesses who have gone before and are entered into that rest. Finally, have faith in God—the best talent of all, and which will brighten all the others. Then, when the last ministering angel comes to do his work, and ye have entered into the dark valley, ye shall emerge out of that valley into a land of beauty, compared with which, earth’s fairest spot would be a wilderness—where gold and silver will be as plentiful as the stones in the streets of Jerusalem—where the talents which ye have so well used in this world, will be all returned to you again a hundred fold, with a “well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”