

to have. Above all things, O Christians, attend to this. You may take an interest in all which relates to the external prosperity of the church; but if you neglect to live the gospel, you neglect the all-important matter.

This, O child of God, is the indispensable qualification for Christian usefulness. If your life is not in harmony with the gospel, you need not attempt to speak a word for Christ. You will do more harm than good by anything you can say. When you speak to persons about the gospel, they look to your life. If your life becomes the gospel, your words will be winged words, armed with power. Therefore adorn the doctrine of God your Saviour in all things, by a life becoming the gospel.

CALVINISM AND THE FIRST COMMANDMENT.

True Christian doctrines must, in the very nature of things, be consistent with each other: being but various revelations of the same divine character or some truth consistent therewith; whether in the glorious provisions and invitations of the gospel or in the imperative demands of the divine law.

It alters not the case, even were it admitted, that the moral law is not to be regarded as intended to be kept; (as some would assert) still, the great fact to which present attention is invited remains the same.

The law of God must be looked upon as a manifestation of the divine will. In this view then, any doctrine which would involve a breach of this law, must be regarded as contrary to the truth of God. The true "*God is love*" as manifested in the various developments of his nature, in his works and in his words.

"This, this, is the God we adore."

Then if any other object be worshipped, the first commandment is broken.

Further, if there be added to the true attributes any other element or property inconsistent with, and foreign to, the *divine* nature; and the *undivine* quality be included in the reverence and so the homage be paid to an imagined Deity composed of attributes inconsistent then such worship must be regarded as offered to another than the true God. A being that could be imagined as unconditionally consigning creatures of his hand to unending torments for performing what he himself had unconditionally decreed they should do, has not right to share the divine worship of the true God of the Bible, and to worship such a being