

inside)—but it is a question of obedience, and of worshipping God according to the principles of Christianity: surely a very important thing in the eyes of those who love the Lord Jesus.

Neither is a Gospel-meeting a meeting for worship, as some think. But especially for those who cannot worship, that they may be saved and become worshippers.

When the epistle to the Hebrews was written, there were many thousands of Jews that believed, and they were all zealous of the law. (Acts xxi. 20.)

If we compare dates, we find that God, in long-suffering goodness and mercy, allowed the believing Jews to remain in "*the camp*" for perhaps thirty years after Pentecost; and so Christianity and Judaism existed together for some years (Acts ii. 46, 47; xxi. 20–25), for God had not told His people to leave it as yet. However, after Paul had gone to Jerusalem, and been persuaded to go to the temple-worship again, *to please the many thousands of Jews that believed*, and had nearly lost his life at the hand of the unbelieving portion of Jewish worshippers, he was sent a prisoner to Rome, and probably from there wrote this very epistle; the Spirit of God using the apostle to call on the converted Jews to separate from the camp altogether, the time having come when God would no longer have His children go on with Judaism.

It was very trying then for one brought up as a Jew, to obey this call, and so it is now. But if we love Him who gave Himself for us, we ought to