

O that our controversists did but understand the philosophy of the scriptures, instead of bolstering up that of the dark ages! O that they could rise to think in fellowship with the Holy Spirit, instead of eulogizing the virtues, and portraying the apotheosis of worthies of other days! They would quickly find that a cultivated conscience would be a never failing source of practical efficiency. The individual man, they would perceive, should soon become conscious of personal ability; and truth would govern the world, which physical force has only degraded. God governs man by GOSPEL, not by LAW—by CONSCIENCE, not by FORCE.

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A good conscience, faith as the result of conviction, and forbearance amid varieties of opinion and interest, form the prominent items of the moral code he has given: and when the ministry come forward with their substitute—power, terror, excitement, feeling—and deceive the people and themselves by the representatives of the good that is done, they try a fearful experiment over which succeeding generations may weep. In such a social state, philosophy is sure to be laughed to scorn as a pagan or infidel heresy; and the love of wisdom must give place to the ebullitions of undisciplined feelings. The intelligent stand aloof, too timid or too powerless to stem the current; or take refuge in infidelity, vainly hoping to find something more coincident with common sense.

Such is the present state of society; and if, in describing it, I incur a harsh condemnation, my refuge is—a good conscience and the Master's truth. But however the censure may be expressed, the revival and education of the moral sense, now become puerile by the oppression of authority or the force of prejudice, is the great object of the Spirit's operations; is the philosophy of faith; and is the mystery in all those laborings of individual mind, while seeking to suspend its eternal destinies on its own convictions, or while aspiring after "salvation" as "the end of its own faith."—*Duncan's Lectures.*

He, who collects, is laudably employed; for though he exerts no great talents in the work, he facilitates the progress of others; and, by making that easy of attainment, which is already written, may give some mind more vigorous, or more adventurous than his own, leasure for new thoughts, and original designs.—*Dr. Samuel Johnson.*

When I can truly say "thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." I shall long to be in heaven, that I may do it perfectly.

"All our rest in this world, is from trust in God."