

power for the accomplishment of the great work which her divine Head has given her to do. The residue of the Spirit is with the Lord. His resources are by no means exhausted. But before the Church can develop the full *maximum* of her strength there must be upon her part a fuller consecration to God. The Bible must not only be more diligently read, but more deeply studied. Nothing will so effectually uproot and destroy the scepticism which is so prevalent in the world, and which not unfrequently invades even the Church itself, than this. The Bible is its own very best defence. The Bible, however, must not only be read and studied before the Church will arise to the greatness of her strength, but she must have such confidence in its teaching as to submit herself implicitly to its guidance. As individual men and women, we must be willing to be BIBLE CHRISTIANS in the strictest sense of these terms; without this, the most solemn form of consecration will prove to be only a delusion and a snare. We must take the inspired word to be a light unto our feet and a lamp unto our path if we would not go astray: we must hide it in our heart if we would not sin against God; we must take it and eat it, make it the very food of our souls, if we would grow strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. We dwell the more earnestly upon this point not only on account of its vast—perhaps we should say—its superlative importance, but also because there is so much danger of its being neglected. In this day of newspapers—when the daily journal is felt to be almost a necessity in our homes—when almost every mail comes to us laden with fresh and fascinating literature, there is great danger of the Bible being crowded out of sight, or if it be not wholly neglected, that it be read so hurriedly and carelessly as to impart very little nourishment and strength to the soul. We must read it, mark it, learn it, and inwardly digest it, if it would be to us what it was intended to be, an unfailing source of light, of purity and of strength to our souls; and without patient assiduity and persevering application this is impossible.

There are other things of importance concerning which we would be glad to say a few words. There are other