

Nevertheless, brethren, it would be no Gospel to you or to me, unless the proclamation of its mercy came attended *with its high demands*. "The foundation of God; the corner stone which He has laid in Zion, standeth sure;" it is fixed, immutable and eternal; it is "a sure foundation;" the whole superstructure of God's temple can rest upon it, in perfect safety; time cannot weaken it, eternity cannot survive it, the powers of darkness cannot shake it; yet does the same voice which announces "the foundation of God standeth sure," most emphatically add, "and let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."* The Grace of God, brethren, that bringeth salvation, hath appeared unto all men;" why? for what purpose? with what design? "teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world."† Can we then come to you, brethren, with the Gospel's peace, and not with the Gospel's demands? Can we proclaim liberty to the captive, and omit to tell you of the law of liberty? Can we repeat to you the blessed words of Jesus, "I will give to him that is athirst of the water of life freely," but forget to add the solemn assurance, "no man without holiness shall see the Lord;"‡ and the still more tremendous declaration, "the wicked shall be turned into Hell, and all the people that forget God?"|| We are "stewards," brethren! "of the mysteries of God," and "it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful,"§ but we should not be faithful, if we omitted these things; we should be unfaithful to God, unfaithful to you, unfaithful to ourselves; for while we were crying peace, peace, where there is no peace, and leaving sinners to perish for lack of knowledge, we should be

* 2 Tim. ii. 19. † Tit. ii. 11. ‡ Heb. xii. 14. || Psal. ix. 17. § 1 Cor. iv. 1-2.