

and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and righteously and godly in this present world.”\* Here is work enough for the longest life, yet how many think that they can crowd it all into the brief peradventure of a dying hour! Oh! that men would but view aright the momentous nature of the work that is set before them! Surely, they would feel that the days allotted them are too few to waste in sin, or to spend in the vanities of earth!

II. AND FEW AS OUR DAYS ARE, THEY ARE EVIL DAYS TOO. Jacob said not this in a spirit of unmeaning complaint, or of ungodly murmuring at the trials which had befallen him; but in a true estimate of the vanity of life: and who is there that rightly regards his position here, that must not admit the call upon him “to redeem the time, because the days” of his life “are evil.”†

1. Are not the days of our life evil, *because of the cares and trials which surround us here?* “Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground, yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward.”‡ Constantly as men try to drown the remembrance of this unpleasant truth in the noise and vanity of the world; constantly

\* Titus ii. 11, 12.

† Eph. v. 16.

‡ Job. v. 6, 7.