

the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world"; "Through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sin"; "The blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanseth us from all sin"; or heard Him say to the man with the palsy, and the woman who was a sinner, "Thy sins be forgiven thee,"—gratitude for the mercy bestowed upon us might supply a motive which would urge us to tell the good news from the far country to the thirsty souls fainting in so many lands for this cooling water, and whose tongues are failing them for thirst.

Possibly if we would try to picture to ourselves what our own condition would be if we were entirely ignorant of the contents of the Bible, and contrast it with what our condition is, we might be led so far to commiserate those who are in darkness and the shadow of death as to send to them the knowledge of Him who is "the Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of His people Israel."

But I am desirous of saying a word or two this evening upon the Bible itself as affected by the criticism of the day, for I think it possible that some people are losing their reverence for it as the Word of God, and coming to look upon it as only one out of many religious books existing in the world, and, even if better than any of the others, no more certain and final than the best of them. If this is the attitude of mind of any one as to the Bible, it is out of the question that such a person should feel an enthusiastic desire to further its circulation or give much in the way of money or time to the work.

Now as to Biblical criticism, I would say to you, do not undertake to judge of the value or worthlessness of the results said to have been reached by the critics, unless you have first, by study of the principles of criticism, and the methods employed, furnished yourself with knowledge,