

same time as He 'prescribes it, and which, in fact, is less a consequence of our salvation than a part of that salvation itself, and, like all the rest, a gift of grace.

*To Jesus, and not to what we are doing for Him.* Too much taken up with our work, we may forget our Master—it is possible to have the hands full and the heart empty; taken up with our Master, we cannot forget our work—if the heart is filled with His love, how can the hands be otherwise than active in His service?

*To Jesus, and not to the apparent success of our efforts.* Apparent success is not the measure of real success; and besides, God has not given us the command to succeed, but to work; it is of our work that He will require an account, not of our success. Why, then, trouble ourselves about it? It is for us to sow the seed, it is for God to gather the fruit; if not to-day it will be to-morrow; if not by us it will be by others. Even when success is granted to us, it is always dangerous to fix our attention upon it; on the one hand we are tempted to attribute something of it to ourselves; on the other, we thus accustom ourselves to relax our zeal when we cease to perceive the effect of it—that is, at the very time when we ought to go on with redoubled energy. To look to success is to walk by sight; to look to Jesus and persevere in following and serving Him, in spite of all discouragements, is to walk by faith.

*To Jesus, and not to the spiritual gifts which we have already received, or are now receiving from Him.* As to yesterday's grace, that passed away with yesterday's work; we can no longer make use of it, we must no longer dwell upon it. As to the grace of to-day, given for the work of to-day, that is given us not to be gazed at, but to be employed; not that we should make it ring in our hands, and think ourselves rich, but that we should spend

it at once and remain poor, "looking unto Jesus."

*To Jesus, and not to the amount of grief which we feel on account of our sins, or to the degree of humiliation which they produce in us.* If only we are sufficiently humbled by them to cease to take pleasure in ourselves, if we are sufficiently afflicted to look to Jesus that He may deliver us, that is all He requires of us; and it is also that look which more than anything else will cause our tears to flow, and our pride to fall. And when it is given unto us, as unto Peter, to weep bitterly, oh, let our brimming eyes remain more than ever fixed upon Jesus, for our very repentance would become a snare to us if we thought we could in any measure wash away with our tears those sins from which nothing can cleanse, except the blood of the Lamb of God.

*To Jesus, and not to the liveliness of our joy, the steadfastness of our assurance, or the fervour of our love.* Otherwise, if this love should in any way seem to lose its warmth, this assurance to be less firm, this joy less buoyant (whether it be the result of unfaithfulness, or a trial of our trust), immediately, having lost our emotions, we shall think we have lost our strength, and allow ourselves to sink into paralysing depression, if not into cowardly inaction, and perhaps into sinful murmurings. Oh, let us rather remember that though at times emotion and its sweetness should fail us, faith and its power remain; and in order that we may "always abound in the work of the Lord," let us look without ceasing, not to our hearts which are continually changing, but to Jesus who is ever the same.

*To Jesus, and not to the degree of sanctification we have attained.* If no one could believe himself to be a child of God so long as he continues to find