

you, but not from Christ, they are the seed of which harvests shall plentifully come in further fields.

Unto us, as unto you, God hath given increase ; but we, as you, have to deplore the smallness of its amount. Limiting causes may be truly alleged ; but, after allowing fair weight to them all, we refuse to be satisfied. Little success stands in disappointing contrast with the promises of God and the glory of our theme. What a theme ! Salvation, full as the ocean, free as the air, lasting as eternity. Surely there is fault in us. That theme, worthily proclaimed, would move men more ! Had we Paul's fastings, prayers, tears, toil and faith, the world would fall before us. Your avowal, in the face of the many and subtle errors which abound, of renewed determination to preach saving truth more earnestly, is very pleasant to us. Experience proves that evangelists, by prepossessing the heart, do far more than polemics to keep the popular mind from harm. Simple "witnessing" baffles disseminators of false doctrine more than controversy can do. Discussion often gives heresy the advantage of an advertisement. There are occasions in which controversy becomes a necessity, but, like war, it should only be entered upon when nothing else will serve. Fires of contention are more likely to consume meekness than to amend mistakes. He who holdeth a fortress upon all sides impregnable—if but watchful of his own walls—needs little trouble himself which way the foe will come. Profounder meditation of God's glorious truth, and less distraction of the mind about the devil's lies, will be best for the heart, and best for the