

1. We should aim at a more elevated piety in both ministers and people.

Every child of God should realise in his daily life that his existence on earth is continued simply that he may promote the interests of the Kingdom of Christ. A profession of religion, if it means anything, signifies the acceptance of this truth and a resolution to act upon it, by presenting the life to God a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable, not in word only but in deed,—deeds of Christian love, and zeal to bring souls to Jesus, to make his name honoured and loved, his cause supreme and progressive. As laborers for Christ our power with men is fixed by our power with God. Through Him, as far as he identifies himself with it, not by might nor by power but by his Spirit will any effort, any life, any church do great things for God. Without him we can do nothing. But need we be without Him? In our closets and daily life, in our fellowship and religious services may we not claim his promises to be with us unto the end of the world, to show himself unto us as not unto the world, to meet with us and bless us? Has he not made plain the conditions upon which he is willing to manifest his presence and power? "If ye abide in me and my words abide in you ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you. If a man love me he will keep my words and my father will love him and we will come unto him and make our abode with him." God shuts himself out from no church, no heart. How powerful the influence of the every day life of one who habitually walks with God. A church composed of such would indeed be a light shining for God. A city set upon a hill. A church is efficient for bearing witness to the truth in proportion as it is distinguished by spirituality and holy living. The aggregate of the piety of its members, not their numbers nor their wealth, not the gifts nor the popularity of its minister, is the measure of its power for good. The word of life is God's instrument for turning the hearts of men to himself, and in the degree in which a church is a living