

some at his merchandize—others in the workshop, or at various employments, and many little better than paupers; and all useless to the church of God; and the first step was *more attention to the faults and errors of others than to their own—more anxiety to rid men of their errors than to fill their souls with the saving truth of the Gospel.*

But this is not the worst: I never knew a censorious fault-finding person who could for a great length of time hold membership in a real congregation of the Lord's people! They will certainly get into trouble with themselves or with the preaching, praying, singing or something else; then a discussion of the question will bring out the character of these cynics. They cannot live with christians any more than vultures can live with doves, or hyenas with lambs—they would necessarily destroy them; and the good shepherd must divide them away to their own place. Like Diogenes they can only live in a tub.

But the Saviour, Lord of all, reproved the people and exposed their errors. True; but when he said *do not* thus and so, he had much more to engage their attentions, something for them to do. And then the spirit of his teaching: that must be considered. He reproved them because he loved them and desired to do them good. He devoutly prayed for them. We read *woe, woe, woe*, to Scribes, Pharisees and hypocrites. We are surprised that the account winds up so pathetically. "He beheld the city and wept over it, and said O if thou hadst known, even thou in this thy day, the things that belong to thy peace; but now they are hid from thine eyes." The new version for *woe* reads "Alas for you Scribes, Pharisees, hypocrites." This language better manifests the Saviour's spirit. After a series of such expressions, we are less surprised that he should weep over the doomed city. If the same divine spirit prompts our reproofs we shall not call them murmurings and complainings, but the working of the truth and spirit of God within us to lead men from danger and death to God and heaven. May the Lord preserve us all from error and "all uncharitableness!"

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## POSITION AND PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLES.

### No. XII.

Our last article closed with twenty-six modern professors all discussing the merits of the opening discourse of the gospel kingdom, delivered in the city of Jerusalem by Peter, one of the apostles of the Lord Jesus. We desire it to be universally known that the