

whose duty it is to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God, through Jesus Christ. The Christian is exhorted to present his soul-containing body a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, which is his reasonable service. Rom. xii. 1. This is the great duty of consecration to God. The Christian should be a whole burnt-offering on God's altar; all his powers of body and of mind exerted and used for the glory of God and the good of souls. A sacrifice was sacred to God. So the Christian should consider that he is the Lord's free-man, set apart for sacred purposes. His language should be, "What have I to do any more with idols?" When solicited to sin, he should say, "How can I do this wickedness and sin against God." He should serve God in seeking to diffuse the Gospel, in doing good to his fellow-men as he has opportunity. Truly it is an honour and a privilege to be engaged in such work. The highest honour which God confers on his children is in making them co-workers with himself. God's work is the recovery of men to himself. This he is seeking by his Spirit, through the Gospel. The Spirit is working to bring men to God and obedience. God's children, as living sacrifices, should work along with God in seeking his glory in the conversion of sinners. This is the work to which they should consecrate themselves. But in being devoted to this service it is not necessary that they should have nothing whatever to do with secular matters. These secular matters indeed should not absorb their attention, and be the great objects which they seek after. They should feel that they are sacred so far as all that is sinful is concerned. They should be clean as regards sin. But the secular affairs of life, they should attend to for the glory of God. Whether they eat, or drink, or whatsoever they do, they should do all to the glory of God. While they do their duty, with respect to the things of time, they should offer up the sacrifices of praise and prayer, and good works. The principle that should animate the Christian in all that he does, both as regards the things that relate to this world and time, and those that relate to God and eternity, is love to God, that love to God, which is the consequence of the faith of that Gospel, in which the love of God is lustrously displayed. These spiritual sacrifices are acceptable to God, through the everlastingly efficacious sacrifice of Christ. It is a most affecting consideration that in having intercourse with God, even in the way of giving thanks to him for his mercies, our gratitude can be accepted only through Christ. And the merey of God revealed