

impose on surrounding brethren—or of the manifest tendency of some of them to the worst features of the Anti-Christ? I advert to these things with sorrow and shame. How are such bodies to convert the world?—How are they to find energy for the overthrow of the mystical Babylon and the conversion of the subjects of the false religions. Brethren, would not the effusion of divine influence turn these parched and dry places into very gardens? Would not the sufferings of three-and-a-half years, during which the witnesses are to lie slain, be likely to operate upon them? Would not the judgments by which the overthrow of Anti-christ is to be accompanied arouse them? Would not a mere infusion of vitality and energy into the preaching of evangelical doctrines have a great effect? There are amongst cold and formal Protestants, individuals and bodies retaining much of the pure Christian spirit, and showing it in struggles for the simplicity of allegiance to Christ, in purity of communion, and in zealous efforts to propagate the gospel at home and abroad. There is a missionary spirit in many of the churches, and though it resembles the altar and offering of Elijah when immersed in water, yet the fire descending from heaven may ignite the mass and raise a flaming sacrifice to the divine glory. This kindling has commenced—the missionary spirit is progressive, and though it has passed from the stage of impulses to that of principle, it is still advancing. May the trials that are to befall the faithful be but accompanied by the power of the Holy Ghost, and there will be a people prepared for the Lord. Here then we see again what we have seen repeatedly—that there seems to be *preparation*, but not much active progress. Here