

ready to do it; if he points to his own liberality, and then points to the needy, and asks us to visit and relieve them, we cheerfully comply; if he speaks of the hatred of the sons of men, the tongue of slander, the finger of scorn, the opposition to himself and his cause, the self-denial, fortitude, and patience necessary to overcome in this warfare, we are resolved to stand fast with him, our blessed Master, whose we are in life, in death, and forever?

It was thus they waited the nod, the word, the example of their divine Lord. They had a single eye. They had a pure heart. They had unfeigned faith. They therefore walked heaven-ward with Jesus their Leader. Hence, counselling, not the flesh but the spirit, they were ready for every good work. Their hands were open; their hearts were warm; their feet were ready to move—at the bidding of the gospel and its author. Love ran through every vein, energized every muscle, quickened every motive, and fired every action. Jesus had something for them to do—for themselves—for their brethren—for the world—and O what zeal to fulfil all the pleasure of the Lord whose love had saved them, raised them from the dust, and given them the hope of life through grace!

Christianity then was worth something. It had eyes, it had ears, it had a tongue, it had hands, it had feet, it had a full heart and a life that laboured; and hence it could see, hear, speak, work, walk, and intelligently and benevolently act for the benefit of man in his various conditions of weakness and want. Wherever sin was found, wherever suffering was developed, there it went and ministered, taking with it the healing oil and wine of the gospel—the medicine of heaven. The Christian religion was not then held in a corner of the fancy, nor in the north or south side of the heart, deposited for safe keeping in a convenient region of the head or breast, like the talent in a napkin; no; the religion of Christ made its subjects like Christ, full of all goodness and grace, developed in the active socials of society. There was 'diligence,' there was 'labour of love,' there was 'well doing,' there was the 'work of the Lord' in these days of primitive simplicity and power of the gospel, and those who were on the Lord's side were engaged in these activities, ministering with all earnestness to soul, body, and spirit for the welfare of others as they had need, or as the necessary assistance could be given. This was zeal—Christian zeal—the zeal of the friends of Jesus as they flocked to his standard when he commenced his reign.

The enemies of the Lord stood up against these advocates and firm-