

promoted by such a spirit of proceeding will never be fully developed, till that great day when all secrets shall be made manifest.

Finally—in contending for any truth of God, let us remember that “the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.”—Unless we have a single eye to his glory; and a real desire to promote the unity of his body, the church—our zeal is a vain show—But with a watchful and jealous fear of ourselves, knowing how prone we are to err, and influenced by such motives conscientiously to assert our principles and consistently to act according to them, is at once our duty, and what love to God and man require of us.

The evils which are too often found among christians, do not so much consist in their difference themselves, as they are connected with their state of mind as regards the word of God, and towards one another, induced by or inducing these differences.

It is indeed possible to be unduly occupied about the externals of religion, while we neglect the weightier matters of the law, and so may we perplex ourselves with the most fundamental doctrines of the gospel, and may wrest them to our own destruction—but this is not the consequence of strictly attending to whatever God has revealed for our faith or practice, but to the partial manner and improper spirit in which we do it. It is the will of God that his people should be holy—To promote holiness he has given to sinners a revelation of free grace, that they believing his exceeding great and precious promises, might be partakers of the divine nature—This end is never lost sight of in any precept he delivers and if we lose sight of it, we can derive little benefit from any of the ordinances which he has enjoined—But keeping this in view for any, to imagine that a diligent and prayerful examination of the scriptural order established