

as entailing upon them corresponding vows and obligations, and as a reason why they should walk worthy of their high vocation. He also shows them that the Religion which they profess, should influence their daily life and conduct, in whatever state or condition they might be placed. Thus, the duties of husbands and wives, of parents and children, masters and servants, rulers and subjects, are dwelt upon, and enforced in the plainest terms, within the capacity of all to understand. This is *practical Christianity*, adapted to the conditions of every day life. But, in modern preaching, it is to be feared, that these relative duties do not occupy that prominence to which, as inculcated in the Bible, they are so justly entitled, and upon the due observance of which, so much of human happiness depends. It is to be feared also, that in rebuking vice, and warning sinners, and exhorting men to repentance, our Congregations are sometimes addressed as if they were *heathens*, and not Christians. For, although it is quite certain, that in every congregation there are some who are walking disorderly; and others, it may be, who are bringing scandal upon the Church, and that holy Religion which they profess, by their wicked and profligate lives; yet we must remember that we are addressing those who are the redeemed children of God, bought with the precious Blood of Christ, and sealed by the Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption. The Prodigal, though fallen and degraded, was still a *son*, and as a