

which he attaches himself, as for the stream to rise above the fountain. The selfishness, covetousness, and want of punctuality on the part of the professed lovers of the Lord, are crying sins, and the cause of more scepticism in the world than the efforts of all the Infidels that have ever lived. The faithful see these things and mourn over them. The true, zealous, self-sacrificing herald of truth views in them the great obstacles to the spread of that truth, to disseminate which he has turned his back on fortune and fame, and all the things that engross the attention of the world. But if it be so very necessary for the disciples generally to devote themselves to the truth in order to its success, how *especially necessary is it for those who presume to stand before their fellow mortals to plead a Saviour's love.* A proclaimer may not always succeed in persuading even his brethren to imitate all his virtues; but if he have bad habits, errors, and disgusting eccentricities, he will find them carefully copied by his admirers. How anxiously then should those, who desire to see men perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord, watch their own actions, thoughts and desires! If preachers were always impressed with the conviction that every word and act of theirs will have an influence for or against the cause which cost the Divine Redeemer's precious blood; they would remember to cultivate those thoughts and reflections, most intimately connected with God and Heaven.

There is no question that many of the brethren are wanting in liberality in contributing to the wants of those who would joyfully go forth into the field to sow the good seed, but are unable to do so for the want of means to support their families; but before preachers complain, ought they not to be able to say, "I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears;" "I have kept back nothing that was profitable, but have showed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house;" "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God!" Acts xx. Were all the professed teachers of christianity able in truth to use Paul's language above quoted, and to add—yes, "these hands have ministered to my necessities, and them that were with me," there would be fewer complaints of the brotherhood. They would see more distinctly the great contrast between themselves and the zealous, self-denying, industrious preacher; and where the disciples were really able, he would want no good thing. When the cause and the field of labor demand all the time and the energies of an evangelist, no one having correct views of propriety, and a proper sense of justice, will question the right of such an evangelist to an adequate support. But a proclaimer of the gospel should not expect a living from a field too poor to supply his wants; neither can he consistently look for a maintenance unless, like other laborers, he devote all the time he can save from needful repose to the furtherance of the Lord's cause. Were the same wisdom and industry manifest on the part of all teachers of christianity that we see evinced by our industrious agriculturalists, mechanics, merchants, &c., we should hear much less complaining on the part of the preacher of his wants and the illiberality of disciples generally! Do not misunderstand us. We are making no apology for those poor covetous souls who thank God for a gospel that costs them nothing! Neither would we utter a word of