

their God, where alone there is true peace to be found ; namely--  
 “ in the simplicity that is in Christ.”

In the passage of Scripture now under our consideration, our thoughts are thrown back upon that secure and happy position, into which the Apostle at the first had led, (and, that he might go to the regions beyond, and confer similar blessings on other people,) had left the Church in Corinth--viz. into Union with their head, Jesus Christ. This union was real, sound, uncorrupt, simple. It was in consequence of its character, productive of purity of heart, holiness of life, and of solid, abiding, satisfying pleasures.

We would next direct your attention to the feelings of the Apostle in reference to the present condition, and dangers of this Church--He was “ Jealous over them”--he felt himself injured, insulted, deeply wronged, and his whole nature was filled, was moved by just indignation on their account. But this “ jealousy” was “ godly ;” there was no wickedness associated with it, none of this hatred or bitterness, or vengeance, which enacts or takes hold on penal laws or forges thumb-screws, or constructs the wheel or the rack of torture, or that lights the faggots, and through temporal flames, affects to send the sufferers to unquenchable fire. No: the flame that fed his jealousy was from the fountain of *love*, he sought not for a divorce, but for a closer union ; to save, not to destroy,--And lest his affectionate efforts to restore and save them should *fail*, his soul is filled with deep, painful, anxious fear on their account.

We shall next examine the cause of all the concern here exhibited on behalf of this Church. False teachers had got in among them, bad men who had taken advantage of the unsuspecting, upright hearts of the Church had “ beguiled them in their simplicity”--and now that under an assumed, or false character they had got into the Ministry, they must sustain their unnatural position by, as much as possible, withdrawing the people’s attention from the teaching of the Apostle, and by lessening his character and authority ; and forsooth, they assume to be Apostles, in order to stamp their false doctrines with authority, and so keep down the voice of the inspired teachers ; alas, that in this day we should have so many successors of such ignoble men ; men who place human teaching above divine, and human authority, where Christ only should be head--“ For such are false Apostles” that