

"That their angels do always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven." "That except we become as little children, we cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven." "That it is better that a man should be drowned in the depths of the sea, than that he should cause one of these little ones to offend."

Then again, when God in His infinite knowledge and wisdom created this world and prepared it for man, he might have peopled it with adults, but in His infinite wisdom he only created two, and the first recorded words of God to man are, "Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth;" and ever since that time God has exercised the creative attribute through man, even His Son came as a little babe, the Son of Mary. What a wonderful privilege is this, that God takes man into partnership as it were, in the creation of immortal souls.

Who can look upon a new born babe, without having called forth in his heart the holiest and tenderest emotions? Who can look upon such a one and think that a new eternal life has been ushered into existence, without a feeling of awe and reverence? In that little heart and life what possibilities there may be of good to the world, the lives of many a humble babe has proved; and on the other hand, there may be developed a character, the very thought of which fills us with loathing, disgust and horror. And when we think that as how we teach them and live before them may depend whether the one character or the other shall be developed, is not the feeling of awe and reverence turned to one of pain and trembling?

Oh! my brethren, is there anything in the universe second to this duty, more important and glorious than this privilege—the privilege of continuing the work which Christ came to do, to save the souls of men from perdition? Is it not a terribly humiliating fact that children should be born in Christian homes, that they shall be sent to the Sunday Schools and attend the services of the church, and still be claimed by the powers of evil? That these little ones, who when ushered into this world are children of the kingdom, who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ, shall ever be let stray from the fold, shall have ever been for one moment estranged from God!

I am very glad to say that much has been done, and that at no time in the history of the church has more real interest been taken in this question than now; but we need to do more; and I venture to make some suggestions here, as to the directions in which I think more may be done.