

we have love enough? This is the great fire which burns in human hearts when God the Holy Spirit sheds abroad the love of Jesus there, by its heat all things are fused. This fire will yet consume all sin and melt all hardness, none can quench it, every thing must yield before it. That consecrated artificer called faith bloweth the coals of love and plunged into its glowing flame, tasks hard as iron become easily workable. Thus, Faith worketh by love.

Love is more than this, for when all is melted and ready to flow, love is faith's *mould*; it pours out all it does into the mould of God's love, fashioning its works according to the divine pattern of love in Jesus Christ. As Jesus loved us, even so would we love one another; and as He loved the Father and for love of the Father, that He might glorify Him fulfilled the law and made himself a sacrifice, even so are we willing to lay down our lives for the brethren and for the Father's honor. Thus love love becomes faith's mould, into which it carefully seeks to pour its whole being.

What is more, it is faith's *metal*, for into the mould of love faith pours love itself. Love thus "answereth all things." Love is the substance of every good work. Melt it down in the fining pot and holiness is love. If there be any virtue, zeal, consecration, or holy daring, its substance, is love. All the grand deeds which the heroes of the cross have performed are composed of the solid metal of love to Jesus Christ. Be it great or be it little, he who hath served God aright hath ever brought into the sanctuary an offering of pure

love comparable to the gold of Ophir.

Love also, is faith's *burnisher* and she, and with it she finisheth all her work right carefully. Have you never lovingly gone over all your work to give it the finishing touches? Have you not wished to perfect all you have attempted? I know well what it means. Many rough castings—how very coarse they are, and when I fix them I look at them and say, "That will not do for I see self there," that will not do; unbelief is there; this will not do; too much of self-will is there," and then I have with tearful love filed down and polished my poor effort and found love to be an excellent burnisher, ready to my hand. When Augustine went over all his works to write his *Retractions*, it was love removing roughness from her work; if we loved more we might have more of retractive work to do.

Thus faith works by love; love is faith's arm, faith's tools, faith's furnace, faith's metal, faith's mould and faith's burnisher. My heart, if you are working for God in any other way than this *you will make a mess of it*. The law can never help you to such work as God will accept; it is fitted to produce bars for a prison, but not pillars for a temple. You must work for God because you love Him; no other labor except the labor of love can be acceptable with Him.

IV I close upon the fourth remark which is: Love reacts upon faith and perfects it. For while love owes all to faith, faith becomes debtor to love. Love leads the soul into admiration, and so increases faith. Having loved Christ, having become enamoured of Him lo-