

field, in great and eminent stations, and in the humble walks of private and domestic life. They are deceased, they inherit the promises, and the greatest good that we can render to the coming age, is to follow the illustrious examples that have been handed down to us.

We are to imitate not only their faith, but their patience; a virtue for the exercise of which there is the greatest need during every period, every step, and movement of our Christian warfare. When calumny and slander assail us, from without, when passions rise within, we need to "possess our souls in patience." When we see injustice triumph, as it sometimes does in this state of trial and probation, when innocence and virtue suffer; when afflictions, public, private, or domestic assail us, even when the weariness of life exhausts, or the difficulties of our situation press hard: in all these cases, we "have need of patience, that, after having done the will of God, we may receive the promise." *Heb. 10.—36.* When the hopes of nations are blasted, when Sovereigns sink from their thrones, and the brave and the wise are cut off in one hour; when parents, are torn from their weeping infants, Pastors are severed from spiritual flocks, and the disconsolate widow mourns; what can we do, what ought we to do, but arm ourselves with patience, and trust in the Omnipotence of God? In short, when death stalks around us on every hand, when
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