

in this world * * * that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate." So said St. Paul to Timothy; so says the Word of God to us to-day. It is an undying principle: if God is always giving we should be always giving too. How continually we are asking God,—“Pray give me this.” “Be pleased to grant me that.” How little do we give back to him even of that which really would cost us nothing! Is this, my friends, honest Christian fairness?

The text promises a blessing; “Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of thine increase, *so shall* thy barns be filled with plenty and thy presses shall burst forth with new wine.”

And God always fulfils his promises. We may not see how he fulfils them, but fulfil them he does. His promises never fail; they will come to us to our advantage in some way, for God’s word is true.

Let us think deeply of the golden words of our text to-day. Let us go away thinking of them, and with them let us connect those words so well known to all of us,—“To do good and to distribute forget not, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”