

Christ as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead be ye reconciled to God." \* Our work is to win souls to Christ, to tell to guilty fallen man, in the words of the Prophet, "Oh Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself, but in God there is help," to point to Jesus as the sinner's refuge and the sinner's hope; amidst the polished, sensual Corinthians, the apostle determined "to know nothing save Jesus Christ and Him crucified;" to the learned Athenians he preached "Jesus and the resurrection." Would we save our own souls, and the souls of those who hear us, we must follow the example St. Paul, and in our preaching and in our private ministrations remember that Christ is the only way, truth, and life for perishing sinners.

But whilst the Scriptures declare unto us that it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save those that believe, that is only one part of our duty, in order to induce those who most need instruction to come to the house of God, it is necessary that the Christian Minister visit those committed to his charge in their homes. In the affecting parting of St. Paul with the elders of the Church of Ephesus, † he reminds them that "he had taught them publicly, and and from house to house." There is much truth in the adage, "A house-going minister makes a church-going people." The Minister seen only in the pulpit is looked upon by many as merely performing his stated duty, and it is impossible that he can know the varied wants, afflictions or trials of his people, nor will they feel towards him that love, reverence and trust which the clergyman, much with his people, experiences. Again, look we to the example of him whose words we have taken as our text: he preached instant in season and out of season; he testified from house to house; he became all things to all men, that he by God's Grace might save some; and he adds, "I was gentle amongst you as a nurse cherisheth her children." There

\* 2 Cor., v., 20.

† Acts xx., 20.