

questionable whether the holy living of its professors has kept pace with their knowledge. Let, then, the blessed Book of God be exhibited in all its bearings, on the hearts and lives of those who profess attachment to it; let it be carried into all the duties and usages of life; let the church bow in all things to its supremacy, and then may we reasonably hope to see happier days, then may we confidently look for the renewing influences of divine grace—then will God appear again in Zion, to grant her a victory over all her foes.

It is scarcely necessary to add that if the Bible have the effect in reference to us which it is designed to produce, prayer, fervent, humble, persevering, must not be omitted. God's holy spirit is needed at all times and under all circumstances, that our duties may be acceptably performed. His spirit is received in answer to prayer. Such is the depth of moral evil in the human heart, that the plain precepts of scripture will not be sufficiently felt, unless the spirit abide in the heart. Those men, in all ages, who have drunken the most deeply from the fountain of the water of life, have been pre-eminently men of prayer. Remember, then, that though you use all other means to know the mind of God in His Word, neglecting prayer you will certainly fail. Knowledge, if it be not sanctified, will puff up; and sanctified it cannot be, unless by prayer. Let this duty, therefore, begin and close all your attempts to study the scriptures. And may you always be able to adopt the language of the Psalmist, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."