

dependents; the importance of a strict attention to religious duties, so long as you are negligent yourselves. You may, for a time, compel them to come up habitually to the courts of the Lord, whilst you are careless in your own attendance. But unless the grace of God touch their hearts, it will only be for a time. When removed from the parental authority you will find them preferring your example to your precept. You may teach them that the "friendship of the world is enmity with God," but if they see you plunging with avidity into its dissipations, they will quickly forget your instructions. And so in every other particular; children are keen observers of men and manners, and he who acts on the contrary supposition will quickly find his mistake. Beware of thus trifling with the eternal interests of those committed by God to your charge.

I have applied these remarks to parents; they will reach the case of persons in every relation of life. Every Christian is, strictly speaking, the keeper of his brother's soul. Let them in a more extended sense be received by you all, as pointing out the necessity