

of this great duty implies, greatly honours the Lord Jesus before men.

It is feared there is not in our churches generally the faithful, earnest testimony given for Christ, which true, deep, powerful Christian experience and consecration demand and prompt. A return to a more simple, apostolic, intense Christian life, and a warmer and fuller expression of it both among ourselves and to others is very desirable, and indeed necessary to a more faithful discharge of the great duty we are urging and which the churches and every Christian are called upon to perform for Christ and the gospel. "Ye are my witnesses," saith the Lord. "He that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the Lord."

An essential characteristic of the Church of Christ as portrayed in the Apocalypse, is holding the testimony of Christ and giving forth that testimony for Him. Light and purity in them, and energetic service on their part for Christ and his kingdom, and consequent aggression on the kingdom of darkness, awaken the enmity of the evil one; a sure sign that they are Christ's, for the enemy of God and the Church knows his own, and will not seek to destroy them. "And the Dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ;" but in vain; "the gates of hell shall not prevail against" the Church of Christ. "And they *overcame* him ("the accuser of the brethren") by the *blood of the Lamb*, and the word of their *Testimony*.