

to them that ask. He is driven to the throne of grace by the sense of his dependence on this aid. And going thence in the power of the Spirit he is armed with weapons mighty through God for the accomplishment of all his work.

Love to Christ gives the *power* of the *strongest motive* to prosecute the work. There is no motive so deep and all-pervading as the love of Christ. It is the mainspring of all true, earnest, persevering labour for Him. When we connect our work in the Sabbath School with this motive power, it breathes into all the breath of a new life. The love of Christ was the master-principle of the life of Paul, the motive for his vast and ceaseless labours to win souls for Him. He drank deep into the spirit of his beloved Master, specially in his travail of soul for the salvation of men. We stand in awe before him as we hear him speak. "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, that I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh." How hard for us with our narrow hearts to take the height of this aspiration, or to penetrate the depth of its spring. "There is more here than an effusion of disinterested benevolence, more than an expression of sacred patriotism. It is an ejaculation from a great heart, filled with all goodness, longsuffering, forbearance, forgiveness, compassion, tenderness; touched with a recollection of its former sinfulness; alive to all the ties of kindred and country; crucified to every selfish feeling; quickened and inflamed by the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ." We stand afar off, and with bowed head, before such Christlike zeal and love. But, nevertheless, here is the true spirit, in the essence of it, which alone can fit us fully to labor for Christ. Love to Him who first loved us is the *power* which alone sustains the heart and fits us for success.

An unconverted Teacher may be successful to a certain extent. Zeal, and earnestness, and intelligence, on his part, cannot fail of their effect. He may be used by God, as a blind instrument, for furthering the very highest end in view. But, what a pitiable position an unconverted Sabbath School Teacher occupies! He is busy about the spiritual temple, but he is not a living stone in it, built up on Christ. He serves some such purpose as the scaffolding, which though useful so far, yet encumbers and deforms the building all the time of its erection. When the keystone has been fitted to its place, and the whole structure stands forth in fair proportions, the scaffolding is thrown down, and trodden in the mire, as a thing of nought. The unconverted Sabbath School