

good works, that is, good works declare and prove, both to ourselves and the world, that our faith is a true saving faith.

It may not be improper to illustrate this doctrine by an example or two. I suppose no one will pretend to say that there was any fitness in Zaccheus the publican, when he came to see Jesus, out of no better a principle than that whereby, perhaps, thousands are led to hear me preach, I mean curiosity. But Jesus Christ prevented and called him by his free grace, and sweetly, but most powerfully, inclined him to obey that call, as I pray God he may influence all you that hear me this day. Zaccheus received our Lord joyfully into his house and at the same time, by faith, received him into his heart. Zaccheus was then freely justified in the sight of God. But behold the immediate fruits of that justification! He stands forth in the midst, and as before he had believed in his heart, he now makes confession with his mouth, unto salvation; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him four fold. And thus it will be with every poor sinner, as soon as ever God's dear Son is revealed in him by a living faith. He will have no rest in his spirit till, out of love and gratitude for what God has done for his soul, he shews forth his faith by his works.

Again, I suppose every body will grant that there was no fitness for salvation in the persecutor Saul, no more than there is in those persecuting zealots of these last days, who are already breathing threatenings, and, if it were in their power, would breathe out slaughters also against the disciples of the Lord. Now our Lord, we know, freely prevented him by his grace; Oh that he may also effectually call the persecutors of this generation! and when, by a light from heaven, he struck him to the ground, at the same time, by his spirit, he pricked him to the heart, convinced him of sin, and caused him to cry out, Who art thou, Lord? Christ replies, I am Jesus, whom thou persecutest. Faith then was instantaneously given him, and behold immediately Paul cries out, Lord, what wouldst thou have me to