

have too much of such doctrine. But it is not only necessary that we have plentiful supplies of this doctrine, the doctrine must be so taken up and assimilated as to become the veritable bread upon which our moral and spiritual natures are nourished, it ought to be the living water which should satisfy our soul-thirst, it ought to be the atmosphere whose oxygen should consume all the impurities of both head and heart, it ought to be the stronghold to which we flee from the deadly attacks of error and doubt, it ought to be the weapon with which we attack evil in every form. And it is only when thus strengthened and equipped that we can with confidence enter the lists against the principalities and powers, the spiritual wickedness in high places with which we have to contend.

But let us pass on. There seems to be something almost akin to difference of opinion between Prof. Henry Drummond and Dr. A. J. Gordon as to whether faith or love is the thing of first importance in the world. But to whichever view we may incline we are all prepared to admit that both are of sufficient importance to demand of us the most careful cultivation. We have already seen that in order to produce the best results in character, correct doctrine is the only safe anchorage for faith or belief. I now wish to add that the capacity for loving also, which is generally held to be an inherent quality in human nature, possessed by each individual in a greater or less degree, is guided as to its objects and regulated as to its power by the doctrine we believe. For example, the man who believes that general happiness or utility is the ultimate ground of obligation, is driven, though perhaps unconsciously, into a line of thought and action which is supremely selfish; while the man who holds that conformity to God's character is the supreme necessity, that the fall and the redemption are great and eternal verities, cannot be other than a missionary and a philanthropist. The men who are moving the world to-day by the power and eloquence of love are not men whose love or whose lives are based upon sentiment, but men whose souls have been stirred to their deepest depths and whose love has been kindled to a burning enthusiasm by the firm conviction that the doctrines of the Bible are true. The enthusiasm of conviction is by itself as mighty as the enthusiasm of emotion. But there is no power so irresistible as that of the