

signed for me. But He only knows—his ways are in the whirlwind. I often told my wife that my mind was exercised with a secret wish that I might be made a useful preacher of the Gospel; and after her decease was more painfully exercised than before. The sanctified effect of my recent afflictions was, *afresh*, to seek happiness in God. I received favourable answers to many earnest prayers, and experienced much of the love of God. But the more I enjoyed of that love, the more intensely did I love *poor sinners*, and the more ardently did I desire that my God would make me the happy instrument of ‘turning many to righteousness.’ Yet, still I could not understand how this could be, when I considered the many hindrances in the way.

“The sufferings of my mind were only known to God and myself. I spent much of my time in reading and prayer—my convictions increased; but a consciousness of inability continually opposed itself, and my burden became intolerable to be borne.”

At length his way was opened before him, and the first effort he made to speak in public was in Rawdon where he met with great encouragement. His exercises of mind were intense—his natural timidity was great—but assured that God only could help, he had recourse to him and was assisted. His 2d. endeavour was at Falmouth when, in consequence of the indisposition of the Missionary, the people would otherwise have been disappointed. The Lord deigned to sustain him, and give him acceptance with the people. Yet on leaving the pulpit his fears of ‘running before he was sent,’ and a deep feeling of *in-sufficiency*, would come upon him so as greatly to perplex him. “But,” He says “I submit myself unto God to do with me as seemeth good in his sight. Yea, the meanest office in his church would I prefer to the greatest honours of the world, if God but manifest his will concerning me, and give me grace and sufficiency to do the same, for my sufficiency is all of God. “Lord help a poor worm to glorify thee.” In this spirit were the entries on his journal invariably made, and the following, on the same subject, exhibit both the perplexity of his mind in reference to the great work of preaching Christ, and the fervour of his devotion.

“May 13th. This has been a day of sore trial of mind. Such have been my discouragements that I have thought it almost impossible to continue preaching. O what shall I do to be saved! Can I not serve God in a private way—cannot the Lord exempt me from working in his vineyard as a preacher? Are there not thousands more worthy and better qualified than I, for so important an office? O what weakness—what ignorance—what fearfulness is here! And must I attempt to preach? What can dust and ashes do? Ah Lord God I am but a child; and how can I speak to this people? Yet oh my Redeemer I submit myself to thee. If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.—If thou wilt thou canst make me a *useful Preacher*. O give me thy Holy Spirit to aid, comfort, and instruct me. Continually direct my way—help me to believe with active, vigorous faith. What I have done was intended for thy glory. if I have erred it was through ignorance, and in striving to