

enter profitably upon the discussion of the subject of Baptism. You are neglecting a previous subject, a subject of overwhelming importance. Your souls are in danger of everlasting perdition. And God forbid that I, or any of my brethren, should call away your attention from your first and immediate duty to any controversy respecting any external rite or observance which Christ has enjoined on his disciples. Let me entreat you in the fear and love of God to settle the previous subject—to become in heart and in deed disciples of Christ. Then you will be better prepared than you can be at present to consider the subject of Baptism; and then, while your bosoms are glowing with love to Him who loved us and died for us, I would give you for information concerning Baptism, and most confidently would I refer you to the Holy Scriptures. Let them lead you; let them, with the love of God shed abroad in the heart, be your guide."

Then, turning to the candidates, he addressed them at some length from the thirteen verses of the first part of the sixth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans. The following are the closing sentences of that address:—

"Think of the power of the Saviour who rose from the dead. He had power to lay down His life, and He had power to take it again. All power in heaven and in earth belongs to Him. To Him then commit yourselves without reserve. Obey His voice. Trust His grace. Here, in His strength, resolve anew to strive against every sinful propensity, till you pass through the floods of death; for He is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."

Says the writer who gave an account of the Baptism:—"Silence and decorum pervaded the assembly, and some were affected to tears. In some of the intervals occupied