

Christ is to cut away the stalk from the root and make life impossible. And I want to say here that if we, as members of a Society which exists to help our needy brethren, wish truly to exemplify those principles which are made prominent in its very constitution it can be in no other way than by personal fidelity to Him who first gave them their reality. Let there be no mistake. Strip man of that with which Christianity invests him and he will not long care whether his brother suffer or be in need.

III. But it may be said that the whole tenor of this argument is against the existence and work of the Society that has met here to-night. It may be asked, why recognize the bonds of race? Why confine our gifts to our fellow-countrymen? Is this not condemned by the spirit of a religion which knows neither Jew nor Greek, neither bond nor free, neither male nor female?

Now, our standard in the working of love is Jesus Christ. When He gave the new commandment they were to love according to the measure with which He loved. And I have not read the life of Christ to find in it any disregard of the ties that bind healthy men to the land of their birth, to the scenery on which their youthful eyes looked, to the people with whom they held companionship. He felt the spell that comes over us all. Is there not the proof of this in the natural images with which He brought his teaching within the comprehension of His hearers? In His invariable conduct to the lost sheep of the House of Israel? In the words of affection with which He addressed Jerusalem, the centre of their national life and aspirations? "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her brood under her wings!" In the way in which He identified Himself with all the great names in the past history of that