

light that beamed upon his steadfast and upright soul. Amidst all the changes through which he had to pass in his eventful life, nothing changed, nothing altered him; he is still the man of unswerving principle and unalterable resolution. Who has read the history of Daniel, the man greatly beloved of the Lord, and has not been delighted with the true nobleness of soul which he at all times manifested? The first view that we have of him, we behold him discovering the highest regard for the law of God, and this at a very early period of life. He firmly refused the dainty provisions of the king at a time and under circumstances which rendered the temptation peculiarly strong. He made it his fixed purpose never to act from convenience, or according to circumstances, but from established principle. Through the whole of his long and useful life every act of a religious character was performed with such exactness and regularity, that shows plainly that the service of his Maker had become a part of his very existence. His enemies were so fully aware of this, that they perceived that the only way by which they could accomplish his destruction was, to throw some thing between him and the service which he rendered to his God. But when his enemies had so far succeeded as to throw across his path the most formidable barrier which human power could construct, he pursued the even tenor of his way, though death stood before him as the consequence of his constancy.

No one more clearly illustrated the language which we have chosen as the foundation of our discourse, than he who gave it utterance. From the moment he submitted to the King of Zion, till he ended his earthly career, he never was deterred by any difficulty from prosecuting the cause in which he had enlisted; nor was he intimidated by any danger so as to abate the ardour of that zeal which he was pre-eminent.

Wherever we see him, and however engaged, we behold at once the fixed purpose of his soul, and that every action was performed with direct reference to the object he had in view; and the success that attended his labours answered to his character.

II. We shall endeavour to point out what is necessary in order to possess fixedness of principle and purpose.

1. It is necessary that the mind be fully enlightened, and the principles of the Gospel deeply impressed upon the heart. No person can maintain a consistent and

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