

commended continue, to this day, flourishing more or less, in exact proportion to the respective commendations; those which He threatened have long since fallen, and the cities where they once flourished, have become ruins for their sake. So will it be with us. If we regard the venerable fabric of our Apostolic Church, the clear commission of our Ministry, the primitive purity of our doctrine and worship, the Holy Sacraments of our Covenant, as so many calls and incentives to a greater watchfulness against sin, a more fruitful abundance in good works; if we feel that we are deeply accountable for these blessings, and labour to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called; to let our light so shine before men, that they may glorify our Heavenly Father, and be drawn, by our example to follow Christ in the Regeneration;—if we do these things, we shall never fall; the fierceness of our enemies will only strengthen our cause, and their calumnies will add lustre to the character of our Church. But if we rest in the propriety of outward and formal things; if we value the endowments of the Church more than its doctrines, and its rank in the state rather than its honor in the presence of God; if we contend for its worldly privileges whilst we undermine its spiritual discipline by our loose and carnal lives; if we indulge ourselves in ease and plenty whilst means are wanted to spread the light of the Gospel, in our own land, or among kindred nations; if papists and dissenters excel us in