

should have regard in our daily work? Do they not afford abundant light and direction as to the choice which should guide us in the selection of our most proper employment? Our chief aim should surely be to serve and glorify God in the true spirit of Christian love and obedience, and to do so with animated zeal and unwearied diligence. This is the only honest and honourable course for us to adopt. There are other ways of spending this precious seed-time for eternity. The voluptuary has his dreams of pleasure; the worldling has his schemes of covetous, restless ambition; the trifling dupe of gaiety and folly resorts to his paltry gratifications; the student toils on by the light of the midnight lamp, seeking the wisdom of natural science and the conceits of human philosophy. But to him who is thoroughly awakened to the immortality of his spiritual nature, and to the urgent duty of improving it in the knowledge of divine things, under a prevailing sense of their unspeakable importance, the one great task, to be undertaken first and prosecuted to the last, is that which is expressed in the words of the Apostle, who says, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." What is the value of the present time, if it be not to be spent in preparation for eternity? In what will everlasting happiness consist, if not in purity and righteousness as well as peace and joy? And if in regard to the former we know that it certainly