

people over whom he has been set,—striving to bring unconverted men to Christ,—and urging upon those who have received the Gospel the duty of walking worthy of God, he, in his sphere, is a peacemaker. Should his ministrations be blessed for the conversion of a single sinner, or the edification of one believer, he will have contributed so far to abate contention, and to advance the reign of peace among mankind.

Of course, it is not necessary, in order to be a peacemaker, that one should occupy an official position in the church of Christ. Ministers are formally commissioned to preach the Gospel. They are expressly separated to the work. But every individual should, to the utmost of his ability, act the part of a peacemaker within the sphere of his influence. Philip was a peacemaker, when he sought out his friend Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and the prophets did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." The woman of Samaria was a peacemaker, when, after her soul-awakening interview with Jesus, she "went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" There are few private Christians who cannot do something, and all should feel themselves under obligation to do what they can for diffusing the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. Parents in particular, I may observe, should watch for the souls of their children, "as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief." They will thus be peacemakers, in the best sense, within their several domestic circles. A mother carefully trains up the babe whom God has given her,—bearing it often on her spirit at a throne of grace,—seeking, as affection and gratitude and sense of responsibility unite in calling her to do, to incline it from its earliest years to the service of its Maker. She seizes every