

Again, we would urge the necessity of studying the scriptures for a practical effect. If what we have stated in another place be correct, that the whole Bible is intended to be practical, it follows, except one recognizes this truth, he cannot see the spirit of the sacred pages; and consequently all the knowledge he may obtain from them will be perverted and become injurious, rather than beneficial. Come, then, daily and hourly to the pure fountain of light, fully resolved not to bend any passage of truth to a beloved system, but rather be determined to receive cordially and to practice promptly whatever is taught therein. Let it be forever banished from your mind that any doctrine is cold, dry, or speculative. Think not, that you have perfectly understood any portion of the holy Writings until it has been inwrought in your hearts, and has come to form a part of your moral constitution. In the holy life and preaching of our blessed Redeemer, we see this sentiment clearly and forcibly exemplified. Between his preaching and practice there was a beautiful harmony. His principles were the basis of his holy actions. What his life was, ours should be.

Dear brethren, suffer the word of exhortation from those who love you, and who live and labour for your religious prosperity. On your christian example, so far as instrumentality is concerned, hangs the salvation of many exceedingly precious souls. Imagine vast numbers passing rapidly down the stream of time, dropping one after another, into the burning lake of eternal misery. Reflect on the awful scene, until your hearts overflow with tender compassion for immortal souls. Bring yourselves up to the judgement seat of Christ, summoned with your children, your neighbours, and all those on earth over whom you ought to have exerted a holy influence. See the piercing eyes of the Judge detecting all your motives, and reminding you of the character of your affections; listen also to his voice, directing your attention to the numerous opportunities to do good, and as you will then wish you had acted, now act;—as you will then feel in reference to eternal things, feel now, so far as it is possible under present circumstances. Be assured, beloved brethren, that nothing short of living according to the scriptures, breathing their spirit during your intercourse with others, will produce on the minds of sinners serious impressions. The present state of the world calls for a holy church—a church remarkably elevated in relation to true piety. Light on the subject of religion has spread through many portions of our world for some years past, but it is

questionable with their knowledge, prohibited in all professing attachments, usages of life; then may we confidently look for the will of God appearing in our foes.

It is scarcely possible to make reference to us, able, persevering at all times and acceptably perfect. Such is the depth of the precepts of scripture, to abide in the law, most deeply fixed in the minds of eminently men, all other means of prayer you will puff up; and in this duty, there is the scriptures. of the Psalmist, "unto my path."