

Church of Christ. Isaiah plainly declares, "That in the last days, the mountain of the Lord's House shall be established in the top of the mountains; and all nations shall flow unto it." And again, "The Earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the seas." And again, another prophet, (Zach.) "The Lord shall be King over all the earth; in that day shall there be one Lord, and His name one."

The words before us were spoken by our Blessed Lord Himself to His Disciples, when He sent them forth to preach the Gospel—to heal the sick—to raise the dead:—"Freely ye have received—freely give." I have selected this passage of Holy Scripture, not so much with a design of entering into a particular explanation concerning its original meaning or application; but rather, at this time, to apply it to all who hear me,—as suggesting many very proper and useful reflections to us, who, by the rapid course of revolving time, have, through the good Providence of God, been brought, so very lately, to enjoy a season most interesting to the members of the Church in this Diocese,—I mean the annual meeting of the Diocesan Church Society; a season, likewise, in which it is our duty seriously to consider whether we have been faithful—whether, in our several stations, we have done all we could do, freely to give to others the means of grace—the gospel's joyful sound, as we have freely received through the kindness of others;—For, my Christian friends, every passing year brings us nearer that eventful day when we must meet, not to consult or devise what we *shall* do, but to render an account of what we *have done*;—not to pass judgment upon others, but to be judged ourselves! And when we consider how much of the world still lieth in wickedness—how many members of our own primitive Church even, are mingled in settlements, thinly scattered throughout this our Province, who, in happier days, in their native towns, were wont to go with the multitude to God's House of prayer, but must now, in sadness dwell only upon the recollection of past religious enjoyments,—are we not compelled to infer, that too many have not rightly considered the Christian's obligation, "to do good and to communicate, knowing that with such sacrifices God is well pleased;" and that, as Christians, they have