

For we read
 him, and put
 it and to keep
 him out of
 only to die,
 also to har-
 en of Eden,
 lt thou eat
 Gen. 3. 19.
 prescribed,
 y labour. St.
 to be quiet,
 k with your
 at ye may
 without, and
 4. 11, 12.
 would not
 that there
 , working
 n that are
 Lord Jesus
 d eat their
 ences and
 n Prov. 24.
 and by the
 ; and lo!
 etties had
 all thereof
 was

was broken down. And again in Eccl. 10. 18.
*By much slothfulness the building decayeth, and
 through idleness of the hands the house droppeth
 through.*

It is a common saying, and a true one; that
Idleness is the mother of all evils; and I may say;
 not only temporal, such as poverty, want, disease;
 but also spiritual evils; since idleness leads men
 into all manner of sins or temptations thereto, for
 want of better employment.

Although industry is your duty as a christian;
 yet you must not entirely trust to that: But must
 ask the blessing of God upon it, and trust to his
 goodness for the fruits of your labour. For tho'
 you work ever so hard, you cannot make anything
 grow ou of the earth, if God sends not pro-
 per weather, and do not make your ground fruit-
 ful; and if he does not give you strength, and
 vigour and health, you cannot even work. There-
 fore you must rely upon his goodness, and humbly
 pray him for your *daily bread*; that is for his ble-
 ssing of your honest endeavours. David says: *Trust
 in the Lord and do good, so shalt thou dwell in the
 land, and verily thou shalt be fed*, Ps. 37. 3. Ho-
 nest industry, supported by an humble and faith-
 ful reliance upon God's mercy and goodness, can
 hardly fail of success; *for the Lord is good, a
 strong hold in the day of trouble, and he knoweth
 them that trust in him*, Neh. 1. 7.