

treatment of those calling themselves ministers of the gospel, who pursue a similar course. But such is not the case. We feel bound to give special attention to him who is esteemed the "man of God;" when he, with solemn look and elongated brow goes into special detail of the faults and errors of this sect and of that party. Ah! he is too good a man to suffer sin upon another! His tongue would cleave to the roof of his mouth were he to be silent when such falsehoods and soul destroying errors find a lodgement in so many hearts!! On these themes he is peculiarly eloquent. Now, it may be necessary *sometimes*, to expose the faults and errors of many of the false systems in existence. But the error which we would now expose is *making this the prevailing topic* of public and private discourse. Black paint is often necessary to form the back grounds of a painting; but he who would hold such a brush in his hand all the time would have, as an artist, few admirers. Vinegar and wormwood are often useful as medicines, and sometimes the former gives relish to food; but he who serves them up at every meal and for every patient would surround himself with only grim dyspeptic skeletons. And such morally are the converts of this class of preachers. What else can they expect? Their children have been begotten, born and fed on vinegar and gall, and how can they be healthy and exhibit comely dispositions! The *soul* must have food as well as the body, or it will never be strong and vigorous. The minister of the gospel must have *his* own soul filled with the riches of God's grace and his mind well stored with the winning and encouraging facts and promises of the gospel, and then he will not have to draw so much on self or the follies of his neighbors. The apostles had sometimes to charge upon their hearers their sins and errors, but they had ten words of promise and encouragement to one of complaint. Had this fact been kept prominent to all the professed advocates of the apostolic gospel, how much more rich and luxuriant the harvest—how much more intelligent and vigorous the converts: but alas! many, now, know much more about the faults and errors of the sects than they do of the way of life and salvation, through the sacrificial death of our Lord Messiah. What would be thought of the man who should expect to dispel darkness by lecturing against it and telling how many were enveloped in its murky folds! Not more unwise than he who seeks to scatter moral night by dwelling upon it. Introduce the light. Pour it in slowly, and gradually, as the mental eye can bear it; and above all things don't complain or find fault with saint or sinner.

See that thrifty farmer surrounded by half a score of laborers.—