

Preaching to the Times.

Nor has any of the spirit or essence of the Gospel, evaporated in all the lapse of time. Nothing but the same adherence to the matter and spirit of the Gospel is now wanted to produce similar results. In all experience it has been shown that the preacher's power towards the accomplishment of his true end, is in proportion to his exhibition of saving truths in the spirit of those truths: If, the essence of the Gospel had been liable to evaporate, one would think it would have so evaporated after fifteen

ence, and yet so determined the zeal, so self-sacrificing the lives, and so wondrous the power of this humble band of believers, that the superstitions of ages yielded to their control, idol temples crumbled into dust, and the very throne of idolatry trembled at the sound of their footsteps. I who had been distinguished throughout by the same ardent love and burning zeal, and entire consecration, and believing prayer, and whole-hearted co-operation, that characterized her early labors, would we, who live in this nineteenth

with Jesus Christ? Not yet introduced to them? Are they not now recognized as members with you of the same divine family; as arrayed with you in the same beautiful robe of righteousness, and covered with the same garments of salvation as receiving with you the same heavenly tuition, discipline, provision, guidance, protection? Not yet introduced to them! Do you not worship in the same place? Do you not sing the same hymns? Do you not read the same portions of Scripture? Do you not unite in the same prayers at the throne of grace? Do you not listen to the same sermons? Do you not surround the same sacramental table? Do you not eat the same bread and drink the same wine in remembrance of "the Lord's death, till He come"? Not yet introduced to them! The Christian who gives "I have not yet been introduced to them" as a reason for his dereliction of duty; for his not having manifested due Christian affection toward recent converts; or towards those who have but lately become associated with him in the faith, fellowship and profession of the Gospel, ought to blush that he has no better reason, to give, and were we to hear him give utterance, to such a reason, and at the same time observe that he did not blush, we should certainly blush for him—and a woman is quite as likely to be in fault here as a man, we will add—and for her. Having received individuals on what has been deemed sufficient evidence of their piety into the membership of the church, ask no other and no further introduction—think of no other and no further introduction to them. From the moment you thus receive them, open your heart to them; open your lips to them; open your hand to them; and, if that be necessary, open your purse to them. Feel toward them as brethren; speak of them and to them as brethren; treat them as brethren; and let this ever be your conduct toward them so long as they "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith they have been called." The many weighty injunctions which are found in the Word of God upon the subject, mind you to this. The character an example of Christ, bind you to this. The feel-

The spirit and practise of the first Christians bind you to cultivate, cherish, and manifest sincere and fervent christian love towards your brethren in Christ. Christianity is unchangeable in its nature; it is the same now, when genuine as it was then. The spirit and practice of the first Christians must therefore, be the spirit that you must cherish, and the practice that you must display. **And what was their spirit and practice?** "All that believed were together." * * * They continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." "And they continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat and drink with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favour with all the people. What was the love of christian unity, of brotherly harmony, and of religious fervor and affection here we have. Reader, catch the spirit, and imitate the practice in this particular of the primitive christians.

The bearing and influence which your conduct will have on others, bind you to cultivate, cherish and manifest sincere and fervent christian love toward your brethren in Christ. The conduct of professors of religion is narrowly watched; and in general, is very accurately judged of by the world. Hence the Saviour said to His disciples "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid." Thus, when professing of religion cherish and exemplify feelings and conduct, the opposite of love and tenderness toward the enemies of the truth to blasphemy, bring reproach to their holy name, retard the progress of the Gospel, and thus draw upon themselves and the cause they have espoused the most serious and lamentable consequences. On the contrary, when the spirit of genuine brotherly love is displayed by professing christians, they are the reproaches of the wicked silenced, and religion recommends itself to their attention, then the word of the Lord has free course and is glorified; then christianity appears in its native purity and beauty, and shines with a lustre and a brilliancy peculiarly its own. Let there be then reader, on your part the exhibition of cordial affection toward your brethren in the Lord; that as your influence may be in favour of, and not against the truly living, religion of the cross.

Thus the true christian, who is truly superior to selfishness or hope binds you to cultivate, cherish, and manifest sincere and fervent christian affection toward your brethren in Christ. Thus the apostle Paul declares "Now abideth love,

the disease seemed to have gained on his system so as to create much alarm, and after a night of severe suffering, he was released to a brighter and better world on the following morning. Throughout his illness, and until almost the moment of his departure, the interests of the cause of God and the welfare of the Baptist Denomination rested continually on his mind, and we feel assured that among the deep and fervent, though silent prayers, that he appeared to be offering up during the last struggles of dissolving nature, many ascended to a throne of grace for the Churches and people, to the promotion of whose interests, so large a portion of his time and thoughts were devoted, and perhaps we might say, his health and life in some measure sacrificed. A close and intimate Christian friendship of more than thirty years, and a joint participation in almost every important matter connected with the general welfare and progress of the Baptist Denomination during by far the greater portion of that time, enable us, we trust, to express ourselves thus plainly and strongly on this distressing occasion and under the influence of such feelings, we think we shall not be blamed in saying that as regards the Baptists of Nova Scotia, "There was "no man like-minded, who naturally cared for their state." Days and nights of unceasing toil were given to their interests, in the firm and unswerving conviction that the cause of Truth and of God was deeply involved in their progress and success."

How true it is that there is but a step between
and death, and how loud the call for immediate
regeneration!

preparation: