

from every thing which defiles, all prospects of gain, that are not consistent with the wisdom from above, are considered as snares, and an inward concern is felt, that we may live under the cross, and faithfully attend to that holy spirit, which is sufficient to preserve out of them.

When I have considered that saying of Christ, Mat. vi. 19, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth," his omnipotence hath often occurred to my mind.

While we believe that he is every where present with his people, and that perfect goodness, wisdom and power, are united in him, how comfortable is the consideration.

Our wants may be great, but his power is greater. We may be oppressed and despised, but he is able to turn our patient sufferings into profit to ourselves, and to the advancement of his work on earth. His people, who feel the power of his cross, to crucify all that is selfish in them, who are engaged in outward concerns, from a conviction that it is their duty, and resign themselves, and their treasures, to him; these feel that it is dangerous to give way to that in us, which craves riches and greatness in this world.

As the heart truly contrite, earnestly desires "to know Christ, and the fellowship of his sufferings," Phil. iii. 10, so far as the Lord for gracious ends may lead into them; as such feel that it is their interest to put their trust in God, and to seek no gain
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