

Ellen G. White Doing For Christ

1 Chapter 2—Doing for Christ

2 From what has been shown me, **Sabbathkeepers are growing more selfish as**
3 **they increase in riches. Their love for Christ and His people is decreasing.**
4 They do not see the wants of the needy, nor feel their sufferings and sorrows.
5 ***They do not realize that in neglecting the poor and the suffering they neglect***
6 ***Christ, and that in relieving the wants and sufferings of the poor as far as***
7 ***possible, they minister to Jesus.*** {2T 24.1}

8 Christ says to His redeemed people: “Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit
9 the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an
10 hungered, and ye gave Me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink; I was a
11 stranger, and ye took Me in: naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and ye
12 visited Me: I was in prison, and ye came unto Me. {2T 24.2}

13 “Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an
14 hungered, and fed Thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee drink? When saw we Thee a
15 stranger, and took Thee in? or naked, and clothed Thee? Or when saw we Thee
16 sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee? And the King shall answer and say
17 unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the
18 least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.” {2T 24.3}

19 **To become a toiler, to continue patiently in well-doing which calls for self-**
20 **denying labor, is a glorious work, which Heaven smiles upon. *Faithful***
21 ***work is more acceptable to God than the most zealous and thought-to-be***
22 ***holiest worship.*** It is working together with Christ that is true worship.
23 **Prayers, exhortation, and talk are cheap fruits, which are frequently tied**
24 **on; but fruits that are manifested in good works, in caring for the needy,**
25 **the fatherless, and widows, are genuine fruits, and grow naturally upon a**
26 **good tree.** {2T 24.4}

27 Pure religion and undefiled before the Father is this: “To visit the fatherless and
28 widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

29 **Good deeds are the fruit that Christ requires us to bear: kind words, deeds**
30 **of benevolence, of tender regard for the poor, the needy, the afflicted.**

31 **When hearts sympathize with hearts burdened with discouragement and**
32 **grief, when the hand dispenses to the needy, when the naked are clothed,**
33 **the stranger made welcome to a seat in your parlor and a place in your**
34 **heart, angels are coming very near, and an answering strain is responded**

35 **to in heaven.** Every act of justice, mercy, and benevolence makes melody in
36 heaven. The Father from His throne beholds those who do these acts of mercy,
37 and numbers them with His most precious treasures. “And they shall be Mine,
38 saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels.” **Every**
39 **merciful act to the needy, the suffering, is regarded as though done to**
40 **Jesus.** When you succor the poor, sympathize with the afflicted and oppressed,
41 and befriend the orphan, you bring yourselves into a closer relationship to

42 Jesus. {2T 25.1}

43 “Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from Me, ye cursed,
44 into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was an
45 hungered, and ye gave Me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me no drink: I
46 was a stranger, and ye took Me not in: naked, and ye clothed Me not: sick, and
47 in prison, and ye visited Me not. Then shall they also answer Him, saying,
48 Lord, when saw we Thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or
49 sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto Thee? Then shall He answer them,
50 saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of
51 these, ye did it not to Me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment:
52 but the righteous into life eternal.” Matthew 25:41-46. {2T 25.2}

53 Jesus here identifies Himself with His suffering people. **It was I who was**
54 **hungry and thirsty. It was I who was a stranger. It was I who was naked.**
55 **It was I who was sick. It was I who was in prison. When you were enjoying**
56 **the food from your bountifully spread tables, I was famishing in the hovel**
57 **or street not far from you. When you closed your doors against Me, while**
58 **your well-furnished rooms were unoccupied, I had not where to lay My**
59 **head. Your wardrobes were filled with an abundant supply of changeable**
60 **suits of apparel, upon which means had been needlessly squandered,**
61 **which you might have given to the needy. I was destitute of comfortable**
62 **apparel. When you were enjoying health, I was sick. Misfortune cast Me**
63 **into prison and bound Me with fetters, bowing down My spirit, depriving**
64 **Me of freedom and hope, while you roamed free. What a oneness Jesus**
65 **here expresses as existing between Himself and His suffering disciples! He**
66 **makes their case His own.** He identifies Himself as being in person the very
67 sufferer. Mark, selfish Christian: **every neglect of the needy poor, the**
68 **orphan, the fatherless, is a neglect of Jesus in their person.** {2T 25.3}

69 I am acquainted with persons who make a high profession, whose hearts are so
70 encased in self-love and selfishness that they cannot appreciate what I am
71 writing. **They have all their lives thought and lived only for self. To make a**
72 **sacrifice to do others good, to disadvantage themselves to advantage**
73 **others, is out of the question with them. They have not the least idea that**
74 **God requires this of them. Self is their idol.** Precious weeks, months, and
75 years pass into eternity, but they have no record in heaven of kindly acts, of
76 sacrificing for others' good, of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, or
77 taking in the stranger. **This entertaining strangers at a venture is not**
78 **agreeable. If they knew that all who sought to share their bounty were**
79 **worthy, then they might be induced to do something in this direction.** But
80 there is virtue in venturing something. Perchance we may entertain angels. {2T
81 26.1}

82 **There are orphans that should be cared for; but some will not venture to**
83 **undertake this, for it would bring them more work than they care to do,**
84 **leaving them but little time to please themselves.** But when the King shall
85 make investigation, *these do-nothing, illiberal, selfish souls will learn that*
86 *heaven is for those who have been workers, those who have denied*
87 *themselves for Christ's sake. No provisions have been made for those who*
88 *have ever taken such special care in loving and looking out for themselves.*
89 The terrible punishment which the King threatens those on His left hand, in this
90 case, *is not because of their great crimes. They are not condemned for the*

91 *things which they did do, but for that which they did not do.* You did not
92 those things which Heaven assigned you to do. You pleased yourself, and can
93 take your portion with self-pleasers. {2T 27.1}

94 To my sisters I would say: Be daughters of benevolence. The Son of man came
95 to seek and to save that which was lost. **You may have thought that if you**
96 **could find a child without fault, you would take it, and care for it; but to**
97 **perplex your mind with an erring child, to unlearn it many things and**
98 **teach it anew, to teach it self-control, is a work which you refuse to**
99 **undertake. To teach the ignorant, to pity and to reform those who have**
100 **ever been learning evil, is no slight task; but Heaven has placed just such**
101 **ones in your way. They are blessings in disguise.** {2T 27.2}

102 *Years ago I was shown that God's people would be tested upon this point of*
103 *making homes for the homeless; that there would be many without homes in*
104 *consequence of their believing the truth.* Opposition and persecution would
105 deprive believers of their homes, and **it was the duty of those who had homes**
106 **to open a wide door to those who had not. I have been shown more recently**
107 **that God would specially test His professed people in reference to this matter.**
108 Christ for our sakes became poor that we through His poverty might be made
109 rich. He made a sacrifice that He might provide a home for pilgrims and
110 strangers in the world seeking for a better country, even an heavenly. Shall
111 those who are subjects of His grace, who are expecting to be heirs of
112 immortality, refuse, or even feel reluctant, to share their homes with the
113 homeless and needy? Shall we, who are disciples of Jesus, refuse strangers an
114 entrance to our doors because they can claim no acquaintance with the
115 inmates? {2T 27.3}

116 Has the injunction of the apostle no force in this age: "Be not forgetful to
117 entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares"? **I am**
118 **daily pained with exhibitions of selfishness among our people. There is an**
119 **alarming absence of love and care for those who are entitled to it. Our**
120 **heavenly Father lays blessings disguised in our pathway, but some will not**
121 **touch these for fear they will detract from their enjoyment. Angels are**
122 **waiting to see if we embrace opportunities within our reach of doing good—**
123 **waiting to see if we will bless others, that they in their turn may bless us.** The
124 **Lord Himself has made us to differ,—some poor, some rich, some**
125 **afflicted,—that all may have an opportunity to develop character. The**
126 **poor are purposely permitted to be thus of God, that we may be tested and**
127 **proved, and develop what is in our hearts.** {2T 28.1}

128 **I have heard many excuse themselves from inviting to their homes and**
129 **hearts the saints of God. "Why, I have nothing prepared, I have nothing**
130 **cooked; they must go to some other place."** And **at that place there may be**
131 **some other excuse invented for not receiving those who need hospitality,**
132 **and the feelings of the visitors are deeply grieved, and they leave with**
133 **unpleasant impressions** in regard to the hospitality of these professed brethren
134 and sisters. **If you have no bread, sister, imitate the case brought to view in**
135 **the Bible. Go to your neighbor and say: "Friend, lend me three loaves; for**
136 **a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set**
137 **before him."** We have not an example of this lack of bread ever being made an
138 excuse to refuse entrance to an applicant. When Elijah came to the widow of
139 Sarepta, she shared her morsel with the prophet of God, and he wrought a

140 miracle, and caused that in that act of making a home for his servant, and
141 sharing her morsel with him, she herself was sustained, and her life and that of
142 her son preserved. Thus will it prove in the case of many, if they do this
143 cheerfully, for the glory of God. {2T 28.2}

144 **Some plead their poor health—they would love to do if they had strength.**
145 **Such have so long shut themselves up to themselves, and thought so much**
146 **of their own poor feelings, and talked so much of their sufferings, trials,**
147 **and afflictions, that it is their present truth.** They can think of no one but
148 self, however much others may be in need of sympathy and assistance. **You**
149 **who are suffering with poor health, there is a remedy for you. If thou**
150 **clothe the naked, and bring the poor that are cast out to thy house, and**
151 **deal thy bread to the hungry, “then shall thy light break forth as the**
152 **morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily.”** *Doing good is an*
153 *excellent remedy for disease. Those who engage in the work are invited to*
154 *call upon God, and He has pledged Himself to answer them.* Their soul shall
155 be satisfied in drought, and they shall be like a watered garden, whose waters
156 fail not. {2T 29.1}

157 Wake up, brethren and sisters. Do not be afraid of good works. “Let us not be
158 weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” **Do not**
159 **wait to be told your duty. Open your eyes and see who are around you;**
160 **make yourselves acquainted with the helpless, afflicted, and needy. Hide**
161 **not yourselves from them, and seek not to shut out their needs.** Who gives
162 the proofs mentioned in James, of possessing pure religion, untainted with
163 selfishness or corruption? Who are anxious to do all in their power to aid in the
164 great plan of salvation? {2T 29.2}

165 I am acquainted with a widow who has two small children to support, wholly
166 by the use of her needle. She looks pale and careworn. All through the hard
167 winter she has struggled to sustain herself and her children. She has received a
168 little help, but who would feel any lack if a still greater interest were
169 manifested in this case? Here are her two boys, aged about nine and eleven
170 years, who need homes. Who are willing to give them homes for Christ’s sake?
171 **The mother should be released from this care and close confinement to her**
172 **needle.** These boys are in a village, their only guardian their hard-working
173 mother. They need to be taught how to work as their age will admit. *They need*
174 *to be patiently, kindly, lovingly instructed. Some may say: “Oh, yes, I would*
175 *take them and teach them how to work.”* *But they should not lose sight of*
176 *other things which these children need besides being taught to work. They*
177 *need to be instructed how they shall develop good Christian character. They*
178 *want love and affection, they need to be fitted to become useful here, and*
179 *finally to be prepared for heaven.* Disrobe yourselves of selfishness, and see if
180 there are not many whom you can help and bless with your homes, your
181 sympathy, your love, and in pointing them to the Lamb of God, who taketh
182 away the sins of the world. Do you wish to make any sacrifice to save souls?
183 **Jesus, the dear Saviour, is preparing a home for you; and why will not you**
184 **in your turn prepare a home for those who need it, and in thus doing**
185 **imitate the example of your Master? If you are not willing to do this, when**
186 **you shall feel that you need a habitation in the heavens, none will be**
187 **awarded you.** For Christ declares: “Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the
188 least of these, ye did it not to Me.” You that have been selfish, studying your

189 own ease and advantage all your life, your hours of probation are fast closing.
190 What are you doing to redeem your life of selfishness and uselessness? Wake
191 up! wake up! {2T 30.1}

192 As you regard your eternal interest, arouse yourselves, and begin to sow good
193 seed. That which you sow, you shall also reap. The harvest is coming—the
194 great reaping time, when we shall reap what we have sown. There will be no
195 failure in the crop; the harvest is sure. Now is the sowing time. Now make
196 efforts to be rich in good works, “ready to distribute, willing to communicate,”
197 laying up in store for yourselves a good foundation against the time to come,
198 that ye “may lay hold on eternal life.” I implore you, my brethren in every
199 place, rid yourselves of your icy coldness. Encourage in yourselves a love of
200 hospitality, a love to help those who need help. {2T 31.1}

201 **You may say you have been taken in and have bestowed your means upon**
202 **those unworthy of your charity, and therefore have become discouraged in**
203 **trying to help the needy.** I present Jesus before you. **He came to save fallen**
204 **man, to bring salvation to His own nation; but they would not accept Him.**
205 **They treated His mercy with insult and contempt, and at length they put**
206 **to death Him who came for the purpose of giving them life. Did our Lord**
207 **turn from the fallen race because of this? *Though your efforts for good***
208 ***have been unsuccessful ninety-nine times, and you received only insult,***
209 ***reproach, and hate, yet if the one-hundredth time proves a success, and one***
210 ***soul is saved, oh, what a victory is achieved!*** One soul wrenched from Satan’s
211 grasp, one soul benefited, one soul encouraged. This will a thousand times
212 repay you for all your efforts. To you will Jesus say: “Inasmuch as ye have
213 done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.”
214 Should we not gladly do all we can to imitate the life of our divine Lord? Many
215 shrink at the idea of making any sacrifice for others’ good. They are not willing
216 to suffer for the sake of helping others. They flatter themselves that it is not
217 required of them to disadvantage themselves for the benefit of others. To such
218 we say: Jesus is our example. {2T 31.2}

219 When the request was made for the two sons of Zebedee to sit the one on His
220 right hand and the other on His left in His kingdom, Jesus answered: “Ye know
221 not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be
222 baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto Him, We are
223 able. And He saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of My cup, and be
224 baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on My right hand,
225 and on My left, is not Mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is
226 prepared of My Father.” How many can answer: We can drink of the cup; we
227 can be baptized with the baptism; and make the answer understandingly? How
228 many imitate the great Exemplar? All who have professed to be followers of
229 Christ have, in taking this step, pledged themselves to walk even as He walked.
230 Yet the course of many who make high professions of the truth shows that they
231 make but little reference to the Pattern in conforming their lives thereto. They
232 shape their course to meet their own imperfect standard. They do not imitate
233 the self-denial of Christ or His life of sacrifice for others’ good. {2T 32.1}

234 **The poor, the homeless, and the widows are among us.** I heard a wealthy
235 farmer describe the situation of a poor widow among them. He lamented her
236 straitened circumstances, and then said: “I don’t know how she is going to get
237 along this cold winter. She has close times now.” Such have forgotten the

238 pattern, and by their acts say: “Nay, Lord, we cannot drink of the cup of self-
239 denial, humiliation, and sacrifice which You drank of, nor be baptized with the
240 suffering which You were baptized with. We cannot live to do others good. It is
241 our business to take care of ourselves.” Who should know how the widow
242 should get along unless it be those who have well-filled granaries? The means
243 for her to get along are at hand. And **dare those whom God has made His**
244 **stewards, to whom He has entrusted means, withhold from the needy**
245 **disciples of Christ? If so, they withhold from Jesus.** Do you expect the Lord
246 to rain down grain from heaven to supply the needy? **Has He not rather**
247 **placed it in your hands, to help and bless them through you? Has He not**
248 **made you His instrument in this good work to prove you, and to give you**
249 **the privilege of laying up a treasure in heaven?** {2T 32.2}

250 Fatherless and motherless children are thrown into the arms of the church, and
251 Christ says to His followers: Take these destitute children, bring them up for
252 Me, and ye shall receive your wages. I have seen much selfishness exhibited in
253 these things. **Unless there is some special evidence that they themselves are**
254 **to be benefited by adopting into their family those who need homes, some**
255 **turn away and answer: No.** They do not seem to know or care whether such
256 are saved or lost. That, they think, is not their business. **With Cain they say:**
257 **“Am I my brother’s keeper?” They are not willing to be put to**
258 **inconvenience or to make any sacrifice for the orphans, and they**
259 **indifferently thrust such ones into the arms of the world, who are**
260 **sometimes more willing to receive them than are these professed**
261 **Christians.** In the day of God, inquiry will be made for those whom Heaven
262 gave them the opportunity of saving. But they wished to be excused, and would
263 not engage in the good work unless they could make it a matter of profit to
264 them. I have been shown that those who refuse these opportunities for doing
265 good will hear from Jesus: “As ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did
266 it not to Me.” Please read Isaiah 58: {2T 33.1}

267 “Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to
268 bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
269 wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord? Is not this the fast
270 that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy
271 burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not
272 to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to
273 thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide
274 not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the
275 morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness
276 shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rearward. Then shalt
277 thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here I
278 am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the
279 finger, and speaking vanity; and if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and
280 satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness
281 be as the noonday: and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy
282 soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered
283 garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.” {2T 33.2}

284 **This is the special work now before us. All our praying and abstinence**
285 **from food will avail nothing unless we resolutely lay hold of this work.**
286 **Sacred obligations are resting upon us.** Our duty is plainly stated. The Lord

287 has spoken to us by His prophet. The thoughts of the Lord and His ways are not
288 what blind, selfish mortals believe they are or wish them to be. The Lord looks
289 on the heart. If selfishness dwells there, He knows it. We may seek to conceal
290 our true character from our brethren and sisters, but God knows. Nothing can
291 be hid from Him. {2T 34.1}

292 **The fast which God can accept is described. It is to deal thy bread to the**
293 **hungry and to bring the poor which are cast out to thy house. Wait not for**
294 **them to come to you. The labor rests not on them to hunt you up and**
295 **entreat of you a home for themselves. You are to search for them and**
296 **bring them to your house.** You are to draw out your soul after them. You are
297 with one hand to reach up and by faith take hold of the mighty arm which
298 brings salvation, while with the other hand of love you reach the oppressed and
299 relieve them. **It is impossible for you to fasten upon the arm of God with**
300 **one hand while the other is employed in ministering to your own pleasure.**
301 {2T 34.2}

302 **If you engage in this work of mercy and love, will the work prove too hard**
303 **for you? Will you fail and be crushed under the burden, and your family**
304 **be deprived of your assistance and influence? *Oh, no; God has carefully***
305 ***removed all doubts upon this question, by a pledge to you on condition of***
306 ***your obedience.* This promise covers all that the most exacting, the most**
307 **hesitating, could crave. “Then shall thy light break forth as the morning,**
308 **and thine health shall spring forth speedily.” Only believe that He is**
309 **faithful that hath promised.** God can renew the physical strength. And more,
310 He says He will do it. And the promise does not end here. **“Thy righteousness**
311 **shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rearward.” God will**
312 **build a fortification around thee.** The promise does not stop even here. “Then
313 shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here
314 I am.” If ye put down oppression and remove the speaking of vanity, if ye draw
315 out your soul to the hungry, “then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy
316 darkness be as the noonday: and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and
317 satisfy thy soul in drought [famine], and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be
318 like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.” {2T
319 35.1}

320 Read Isaiah 58, ye who claim to be children of the light. **Especially do you**
321 **read it again and again who have felt so reluctant to inconvenience**
322 **yourselves by favoring the needy. You whose hearts and houses are too**
323 **narrow to make a home for the homeless, read it; you who can see orphans**
324 **and widows oppressed by the iron hand of poverty and bowed down by**
325 **hardhearted worldlings, read it.** Are you afraid that an influence will be
326 introduced into your family that will cost you more labor, read it. **Your fears**
327 **may be groundless, and a blessing may come, known and realized by you**
328 **every day. But if otherwise, if extra labor is called for, you can draw upon**
329 **One who has promised:** “Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and
330 thine health shall spring forth speedily.” **The reason why God’s people are**
331 **not more spiritually minded and have not more faith, I have been shown,**
332 **is because they are narrowed up with selfishness. *The prophet is addressing***
333 ***Sabbathkeepers, not sinners, not unbelievers, but those who make great***
334 ***pretensions to godliness.* It is not the abundance of your meetings that God**
335 **accepts. It is not the numerous prayers, but the rightdoing, doing the right**

336 **thing and at the right time. It is to be less self-caring and more benevolent.**

337 Our souls must expand. Then God will make them like a watered garden,

338 whose waters fail not. {2T 35.2}

339 Read Isaiah 1: “And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide Mine eyes

340 from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full

341 of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from

342 before Mine eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the

343 oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us

344 reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as

345 white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be

346 willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: but if ye refuse and

347 rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath

348 spoken it.” {2T 36.1}

349 **The gold mentioned by Christ, the True Witness, which all must have, has**

350 **been shown me to be faith and love combined, and love takes the**

351 **precedence of faith.** Satan is constantly at work to remove these precious gifts

352 from the hearts of God’s people. All are engaged in playing the game of life.

353 **Satan is well aware that if he can remove love and faith, and supply their**

354 **place with selfishness and unbelief, all the remaining precious traits will**

355 **soon be skillfully removed by his deceitful hand, and the game will be lost.**

356 {2T 36.2}

357 My dear brethren, will you allow Satan to accomplish his purpose? Will you

358 submit to lose the game in which you desire to win everlasting life? If God has

359 ever spoken by me, you will just as surely be overcome by Satan, instead of

360 being overcomers, as the throne of God stands sure, unless you are entirely

361 transformed. Love and faith must be won back. Will you engage in this conflict

362 anew and win back the precious gifts of which you are nearly destitute? You

363 will have to make efforts more earnest, more persevering and untiring, than you

364 have ever yet made. It is not merely to pray or fast, but it is to be obedient, to

365 divest yourselves of selfishness, and keep the fast which God has chosen,

366 which He will accept. **Many may feel grieved because I have spoken**

367 **plainly; but this I shall continue to do, if God lays the burden upon me.**

368 {2T 37.1}

369 God requires that those who occupy responsible positions should be

370 consecrated to the work; for if they move wrong, the people feel at liberty to

371 follow in their footsteps. If the people are wrong, and the leaders lift not their

372 voice against the wrong, they sanction the same, and the sin is charged upon

373 them as well as the offenders. Those who occupy responsible positions should

374 be men of piety, who continually feel the burden of the work resting upon

375 them. {2T 37.2}

