

436 obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: but if ye refuse and
437 rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the
438 Lord hath spoken it.” {2T 36.1}

439 **The gold** mentioned by Christ, the True Witness, which all
440 must have, **has been shown me to be faith and love**
441 **combined, and love takes the precedence of faith.** Satan is
442 constantly at work to remove these precious gifts from the
443 hearts of God’s people. All are engaged in playing the game of
444 life. **Satan is well aware that if he can remove love and**
445 **faith, and supply their place with selfishness and unbelief,**
446 **all the remaining precious traits will soon be skillfully**
447 **removed by his deceitful hand, and the game will be lost.**
448 {2T 36.2}

449 My dear brethren, will you allow Satan to accomplish his
450 purpose? Will you submit to lose the game in which you desire
451 to win everlasting life? If God has ever spoken by me, you will
452 just as surely be overcome by Satan, instead of being
453 overcomers, as the throne of God stands sure, unless you are
454 entirely transformed. Love and faith must be won back. Will
455 you engage in this conflict anew and win back the precious
456 gifts of which you are nearly destitute? You will have to make
457 efforts more earnest, more persevering and untiring, than you
458 have ever yet made. It is not merely to pray or fast, but it is to
459 be obedient, to divest yourselves of selfishness, and keep the
460 fast which God has chosen, which He will accept. **Many may**
461 **feel grieved because I have spoken plainly; but this I shall**
462 **continue to do, if God lays the burden upon me.** {2T 37.1}
463 God requires that those who occupy responsible positions
464 should be consecrated to the work; for if they move wrong, the
465 people feel at liberty to follow in their footsteps. If the people
466 are wrong, and the leaders lift not their voice against the
467 wrong, they sanction the same, and the sin is charged upon
468 them as well as the offenders. Those who occupy responsible
469 positions should be men of piety, who continually feel the
470 burden of the work resting upon them. {2T 37.2}

Find more information on fasting and
resources on other subjects at
discipleheart.com.



Ellen G. White Doing For Christ

1 Chapter 2—Doing for Christ
2 From what has been shown me, **Sabbathkeepers are growing**
3 **more selfish as they increase in riches. Their love for Christ**
4 **and His people is decreasing.** They do not see the wants of the
5 needy, nor feel their sufferings and sorrows. *They do not*
6 *realize that in neglecting the poor and the suffering they*
7 *neglect Christ, and that in relieving the wants and sufferings*
8 *of the poor as far as possible, they minister to Jesus.* {2T
9 24.1}
10 Christ says to His redeemed people: “Come, ye blessed of My
11 Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the
12 foundation of the world: for I was an hungered, and ye gave
13 Me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink; I was a stranger,
14 and ye took Me in: naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and
15 ye visited Me: I was in prison, and ye came unto Me. {2T
16 24.2}
17 “Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw
18 we Thee an hungered, and fed Thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee
19 drink? When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? or
20 naked, and clothed Thee? Or when saw we Thee sick, or in
21 prison, and came unto Thee? And the King shall answer and
22 say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have
23 done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done
24 it unto Me.” {2T 24.3}
25 **To become a toiler, to continue patiently in well-doing**
26 **which calls for self-denying labor, is a glorious work, which**
27 **Heaven smiles upon. Faithful work is more acceptable to**
28 **God than the most zealous and thought-to-be holiest worship.**
29 It is working together with Christ that is true worship. **Prayers,**
30 **exhortation, and talk are cheap fruits, which are frequently**
31 **tied on; but fruits that are manifested in good works, in**
32 **caring for the needy, the fatherless, and widows, are**
33 **genuine fruits, and grow naturally upon a good tree.** {2T
34 24.4}
35 Pure religion and undefiled before the Father is this: “To visit

36 the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep
37 himself unspotted from the world.” **Good deeds are the fruit**
38 **that Christ requires us to bear: kind words, deeds of**
39 **benevolence, of tender regard for the poor, the needy, the**
40 **afflicted. When hearts sympathize with hearts burdened**
41 **with discouragement and grief, when the hand dispenses to**
42 **the needy, when the naked are clothed, the stranger made**
43 **welcome to a seat in your parlor and a place in your heart,**
44 **angels are coming very near, and an answering strain is**
45 **responded to in heaven.** Every act of justice, mercy, and
46 benevolence makes melody in heaven. The Father from His
47 throne beholds those who do these acts of mercy, and numbers
48 them with His most precious treasures. “And they shall be
49 Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My
50 jewels.” **Every merciful act to the needy, the suffering, is**
51 **regarded as though done to Jesus.** When you succor the poor,
52 sympathize with the afflicted and oppressed, and befriend the
53 orphan, you bring yourselves into a closer relationship to Jesus.
54 {2T 25.1}
55 “Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart
56 from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil
57 and his angels: for I was an hungered, and ye gave Me no meat:
58 I was thirsty, and ye gave Me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye
59 took Me not in: naked, and ye clothed Me not: sick, and in
60 prison, and ye visited Me not. Then shall they also answer Him,
61 saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungered, or athirst, or a
62 stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister
63 unto Thee? Then shall He answer them, saying, Verily I say
64 unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these,
65 ye did it not to Me. And these shall go away into everlasting
66 punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.” Matthew
67 25:41-46. {2T 25.2}
68 Jesus here identifies Himself with His suffering people. **It was**
69 **I who was hungry and thirsty. It was I who was a stranger.**
70 **It was I who was naked. It was I who was sick. It was I who**
71 **was in prison. When you were enjoying the food from your**
72 **bountifully spread tables, I was famishing in the hovel or**
73 **street not far from you. When you closed your doors**
74 **against Me, while your well-furnished rooms were**
75 **unoccupied, I had not where to lay My head. Your**

396 shall say, Here I am.” If ye put down oppression and remove
397 the speaking of vanity, if ye draw out your soul to the hungry,
398 “then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as
399 the noonday: and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and
400 satisfy thy soul in drought [famine], and make fat thy bones:
401 and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of
402 water, whose waters fail not.” {2T 35.1}
403 Read Isaiah 58, ye who claim to be children of the light.
404 **Especially do you read it again and again who have felt so**
405 **reluctant to inconvenience yourselves by favoring the**
406 **needy. You whose hearts and houses are too narrow to**
407 **make a home for the homeless, read it; you who can see**
408 **orphans and widows oppressed by the iron hand of poverty**
409 **and bowed down by hardhearted worldlings, read it.** Are
410 you afraid that an influence will be introduced into your family
411 that will cost you more labor, read it. **Your fears may be**
412 **groundless, and a blessing may come, known and realized**
413 **by you every day. But if otherwise, if extra labor is called**
414 **for, you can draw upon One who has promised:** “Then shall
415 thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall
416 spring forth speedily.” **The reason why God’s people are not**
417 **more spiritually minded and have not more faith, I have**
418 **been shown, is because they are narrowed up with**
419 **selfishness. *The prophet is addressing Sabbathkeepers, not***
420 ***sinners, not unbelievers, but those who make great***
421 ***pretensions to godliness. It is not the abundance of your***
422 ***meetings that God accepts. It is not the numerous prayers,***
423 ***but the rightdoing, doing the right thing and at the right***
424 ***time. It is to be less self-caring and more benevolent.*** Our
425 souls must expand. Then God will make them like a watered
426 garden, whose waters fail not. {2T 35.2}
427 Read Isaiah 1: “And when ye spread forth your hands, I will
428 hide Mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I
429 will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make
430 you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before Mine
431 eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve
432 the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come
433 now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your
434 sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they
435 be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and

356 and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered
357 garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not." {2T
358 33.2}

359 **This is the special work now before us. All our praying and**
360 **abstinence from food will avail nothing unless we resolutely**
361 **lay hold of this work. Sacred obligations are resting upon**
362 **us.** Our duty is plainly stated. The Lord has spoken to us by His
363 prophet. The thoughts of the Lord and His ways are not what
364 blind, selfish mortals believe they are or wish them to be. The
365 Lord looks on the heart. If selfishness dwells there, He knows
366 it. We may seek to conceal our true character from our brethren
367 and sisters, but God knows. Nothing can be hid from Him. {2T
368 34.1}

369 **The fast which God can accept is described. It is to deal thy**
370 **bread to the hungry and to bring the poor which are cast**
371 **out to thy house. Wait not for them to come to you. The**
372 **labor rests not on them to hunt you up and entreat of you a**
373 **home for themselves. You are to search for them and bring**
374 **them to your house.** You are to draw out your soul after them.
375 You are with one hand to reach up and by faith take hold of the
376 mighty arm which brings salvation, while with the other hand
377 of love you reach the oppressed and relieve them. **It is**
378 **impossible for you to fasten upon the arm of God with one**
379 **hand while the other is employed in ministering to your**
380 **own pleasure.** {2T 34.2}

381 **If you engage in this work of mercy and love, will the work**
382 **prove too hard for you? Will you fail and be crushed under**
383 **the burden, and your family be deprived of your assistance**
384 **and influence? *Oh, no; God has carefully removed all doubts***
385 ***upon this question, by a pledge to you on condition of your***
386 ***obedience.*** This promise covers all that the most exacting,
387 the most hesitating, could crave. "Then shall thy light break
388 forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth
389 speedily." **Only believe that He is faithful that hath**
390 **promised.** God can renew the physical strength. And more, He
391 says He will do it. And the promise does not end here. "**Thy**
392 **righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord**
393 **shall be thy rearward."** **God will build a fortification**
394 **around thee.** The promise does not stop even here. "Then shalt
395 thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and He

76 **wardrobes were filled with an abundant supply of**
77 **changeable suits of apparel, upon which means had been**
78 **needlessly squandered, which you might have given to the**
79 **needy. I was destitute of comfortable apparel. When you**
80 **were enjoying health, I was sick. Misfortune cast Me into**
81 **prison and bound Me with fetters, bowing down My spirit,**
82 **depriving Me of freedom and hope, while you roamed free.**
83 **What a oneness Jesus here expresses as existing between**
84 **Himself and His suffering disciples! He makes their case**
85 **His own.** He identifies Himself as being in person the very
86 sufferer. Mark, selfish Christian: **every neglect of the needy**
87 **poor, the orphan, the fatherless, is a neglect of Jesus in their**
88 **person.** {2T 25.3}

89 I am acquainted with persons who make a high profession,
90 whose hearts are so encased in self-love and selfishness that
91 they cannot appreciate what I am writing. **They have all their**
92 **lives thought and lived only for self. To make a sacrifice to**
93 **do others good, to disadvantage themselves to advantage**
94 **others, is out of the question with them. They have not the**
95 **least idea that God requires this of them. Self is their idol.**
96 Precious weeks, months, and years pass into eternity, but they
97 have no record in heaven of kindly acts, of sacrificing for
98 others' good, of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, or
99 taking in the stranger. **This entertaining strangers at a**
100 **venture is not agreeable. If they knew that all who sought to**
101 **share their bounty were worthy, then they might be**
102 **induced to do something in this direction.** But there is virtue
103 in venturing something. Perchance we may entertain angels.
104 {2T 26.1}

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

116 *condemned for the things which they did do, but for that*
117 *which they did not do.* You did not those things which Heaven
118 assigned you to do. You pleased yourself, and can take your
119 portion with self-pleasers. {2T 27.1}
120 To my sisters I would say: Be daughters of benevolence. The
121 Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost. **You**
122 **may have thought that if you could find a child without**
123 **fault, you would take it, and care for it; but to perplex your**
124 **mind with an erring child, to unlearn it many things and**
125 **teach it anew, to teach it self-control, is a work which you**
126 **refuse to undertake. To teach the ignorant, to pity and to**
127 **reform those who have ever been learning evil, is no slight**
128 **task; but Heaven has placed just such ones in your way.**
129 **They are blessings in disguise.** {2T 27.2}
130 *Years ago I was shown that God's people would be tested*
131 *upon this point of making homes for the homeless; that there*
132 *would be many without homes in consequence of their*
133 *believing the truth.* Opposition and persecution would deprive
134 believers of their homes, and **it was the duty of those who had**
135 **homes to open a wide door to those who had not. I have**
136 **been shown more recently that God would specially test His**
137 **professed people in reference to this matter.** Christ for our
138 sakes became poor that we through His poverty might be made
139 rich. He made a sacrifice that He might provide a home for
140 pilgrims and strangers in the world seeking for a better country,
141 even an heavenly. Shall those who are subjects of His grace,
142 who are expecting to be heirs of immortality, refuse, or even
143 feel reluctant, to share their homes with the homeless and
144 needy? Shall we, who are disciples of Jesus, refuse strangers an
145 entrance to our doors because they can claim no acquaintance
146 with the inmates? {2T 27.3}
147 Has the injunction of the apostle no force in this age: "Be not
148 forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have
149 entertained angels unawares"? **I am daily pained with**
150 **exhibitions of selfishness among our people. There is an**
151 **alarming absence of love and care for those who are**
152 **entitled to it. Our heavenly Father lays blessings disguised in**
153 **our pathway, but some will not touch these for fear they will**
154 **detract from their enjoyment. Angels are waiting to see if we**
155 **embrace opportunities within our reach of doing good—**

316 Fatherless and motherless children are thrown into the arms of
317 the church, and Christ says to His followers: Take these
318 destitute children, bring them up for Me, and ye shall receive
319 your wages. I have seen much selfishness exhibited in these
320 **things. Unless there is some special evidence that they**
321 **themselves are to be benefited by adopting into their family**
322 **those who need homes, some turn away and answer: No.**
323 They do not seem to know or care whether such are saved or
324 lost. That, they think, is not their business. **With Cain they**
325 **say: "Am I my brother's keeper?" They are not willing to**
326 **be put to inconvenience or to make any sacrifice for the**
327 **orphans, and they indifferently thrust such ones into the**
328 **arms of the world, who are sometimes more willing to**
329 **receive them than are these professed Christians.** In the day
330 of God, inquiry will be made for those whom Heaven gave
331 them the opportunity of saving. But they wished to be excused,
332 and would not engage in the good work unless they could make
333 it a matter of profit to them. I have been shown that those who
334 refuse these opportunities for doing good will hear from Jesus:
335 "As ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to
336 Me." Please read Isaiah 58: {2T 33.1}
337 "Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict
338 his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread
339 sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an
340 acceptable day to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I have
341 chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy
342 burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break
343 every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that
344 thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou
345 seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not
346 thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth
347 as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and
348 thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord
349 shall be thy rearward. Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall
350 answer; thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here I am. If thou take
351 away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the
352 finger, and speaking vanity; and if thou draw out thy soul to the
353 hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in
354 obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: and the Lord
355 shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought,

276 When the request was made for the two sons of Zebedee to sit
277 the one on His right hand and the other on His left in His
278 kingdom, Jesus answered: “Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye
279 able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized
280 with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto Him,
281 We are able. And He saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of
282 My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized
283 with: but to sit on My right hand, and on My left, is not Mine to
284 give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of
285 My Father.” How many can answer: We can drink of the cup;
286 we can be baptized with the baptism; and make the answer
287 understandingly? How many imitate the great Exemplar? All
288 who have professed to be followers of Christ have, in taking
289 this step, pledged themselves to walk even as He walked. Yet
290 the course of many who make high professions of the truth
291 shows that they make but little reference to the Pattern in
292 conforming their lives thereto. They shape their course to meet
293 their own imperfect standard. They do not imitate the self-
294 denial of Christ or His life of sacrifice for others’ good. {2T
295 32.1}

296 **The poor, the homeless, and the widows are among us.** I
297 heard a wealthy farmer describe the situation of a poor widow
298 among them. He lamented her straitened circumstances, and
299 then said: “I don’t know how she is going to get along this cold
300 winter. She has close times now.” Such have forgotten the
301 pattern, and by their acts say: “Nay, Lord, we cannot drink of
302 the cup of self-denial, humiliation, and sacrifice which You
303 drank of, nor be baptized with the suffering which You were
304 baptized with. We cannot live to do others good. It is our
305 business to take care of ourselves.” Who should know how the
306 widow should get along unless it be those who have well-filled
307 granaries? The means for her to get along are at hand. And
308 **dare those whom God has made His stewards, to whom He**
309 **has entrusted means, withhold from the needy disciples of**
310 **Christ? If so, they withhold from Jesus.** Do you expect the
311 Lord to rain down grain from heaven to supply the needy? **Has**
312 **He not rather placed it in your hands, to help and bless**
313 **them through you? Has He not made you His instrument in**
314 **this good work to prove you, and to give you the privilege of**
315 **laying up a treasure in heaven?** {2T 32.2}

156 *waiting to see if we will bless others, that they in their turn*
157 *may bless us.* **The Lord Himself has made us to differ,—**
158 **some poor, some rich, some afflicted,—that all may have an**
159 **opportunity to develop character. The poor are purposely**
160 **permitted to be thus of God, that we may be tested and**
161 **proved, and develop what is in our hearts.** {2T 28.1}

162 **I have heard many excuse themselves from inviting to their**
163 **homes and hearts the saints of God. “Why, I have nothing**
164 **prepared, I have nothing cooked;** they must go to some other
165 place.” And **at that place there may be some other excuse**
166 **invented for not receiving those who need hospitality, and**
167 **the feelings of the visitors are deeply grieved, and they leave**
168 **with unpleasant impressions** in regard to the hospitality of
169 these professed brethren and sisters. **If you have no bread,**
170 **sister, imitate the case brought to view in the Bible. Go to**
171 **your neighbor and say: “Friend, lend me three loaves; for a**
172 **friend of mine in his journey is come to me,** and I have
173 nothing to set before him.” We have not an example of this
174 lack of bread ever being made an excuse to refuse entrance to
175 an applicant. When Elijah came to the widow of Sarepta, she
176 shared her morsel with the prophet of God, and he wrought a
177 miracle, and caused that in that act of making a home for his
178 servant, and sharing her morsel with him, she herself was
179 sustained, and her life and that of her son preserved. Thus will
180 it prove in the case of many, if they do this cheerfully, for the
181 glory of God. {2T 28.2}

182 **Some plead their poor health—they would love to do if they**
183 **had strength. Such have so long shut themselves up to**
184 **themselves, and thought so much of their own poor feelings,**
185 **and talked so much of their sufferings, trials, and**
186 **afflictions, that it is their present truth.** They can think of no
187 one but self, however much others may be in need of sympathy
188 and assistance. **You who are suffering with poor health,**
189 **there is a remedy for you. If thou clothe the naked, and**
190 **bring the poor that are cast out to thy house, and deal thy**
191 **bread to the hungry, “then shall thy light break forth as the**
192 **morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily.”**
193 *Doing good is an excellent remedy for disease. Those who*
194 *engage in the work are invited to call upon God, and He has*
195 *pledged Himself to answer them.* Their soul shall be satisfied

196 in drought, and they shall be like a watered garden, whose
197 waters fail not. {2T 29.1}
198 Wake up, brethren and sisters. Do not be afraid of good works.
199 “Let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall
200 reap, if we faint not.” **Do not wait to be told your duty. Open**
201 **your eyes and see who are around you; make yourselves**
202 **acquainted with the helpless, afflicted, and needy. Hide not**
203 **yourself from them, and seek not to shut out their needs.**
204 Who gives the proofs mentioned in James, of possessing pure
205 religion, untainted with selfishness or corruption? Who are
206 anxious to do all in their power to aid in the great plan of
207 salvation? {2T 29.2}
208 I am acquainted with a widow who has two small children to
209 support, wholly by the use of her needle. She looks pale and
210 careworn. All through the hard winter she has struggled to
211 sustain herself and her children. She has received a little help,
212 but who would feel any lack if a still greater interest were
213 manifested in this case? Here are her two boys, aged about nine
214 and eleven years, who need homes. Who are willing to give
215 them homes for Christ’s sake? **The mother should be released**
216 **from this care and close confinement to her needle.** These
217 boys are in a village, their only guardian their hard-working
218 mother. They need to be taught how to work as their age will
219 admit. *They need to be patiently, kindly, lovingly instructed.*
220 *Some may say: “Oh, yes, I would take them and teach them*
221 *how to work.” But they should not lose sight of other things*
222 *which these children need besides being taught to work. They*
223 *need to be instructed how they shall develop good Christian*
224 *character. They want love and affection, they need to be fitted*
225 *to become useful here, and finally to be prepared for heaven.*
226 Disrobe yourselves of selfishness, and see if there are not many
227 whom you can help and bless with your homes, your sympathy,
228 your love, and in pointing them to the Lamb of God, who
229 taketh away the sins of the world. Do you wish to make any
230 sacrifice to save souls? **Jesus, the dear Saviour, is preparing**
231 **a home for you; and why will not you in your turn prepare**
232 **a home for those who need it, and in thus doing imitate the**
233 **example of your Master? If you are not willing to do this,**
234 **when you shall feel that you need a habitation in the**
235 **heavens, none will be awarded you.** For Christ declares:

236 “Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it
237 not to Me.” You that have been selfish, studying your own ease
238 and advantage all your life, your hours of probation are fast
239 closing. What are you doing to redeem your life of selfishness
240 and uselessness? Wake up! wake up! {2T 30.1}
241 As you regard your eternal interest, arouse yourselves, and
242 begin to sow good seed. That which you sow, you shall also
243 reap. The harvest is coming—the great reaping time, when we
244 shall reap what we have sown. There will be no failure in the
245 crop; the harvest is sure. Now is the sowing time. Now make
246 efforts to be rich in good works, “ready to distribute, willing to
247 communicate,” laying up in store for yourselves a good
248 foundation against the time to come, that ye “may lay hold on
249 eternal life.” I implore you, my brethren in every place, rid
250 yourselves of your icy coldness. Encourage in yourselves a
251 love of hospitality, a love to help those who need help. {2T
252 31.1}
253 **You may say you have been taken in and have bestowed**
254 **your means upon those unworthy of your charity, and**
255 **therefore have become discouraged in trying to help the**
256 **needy.** I present Jesus before you. **He came to save fallen**
257 **man, to bring salvation to His own nation; but they would**
258 **not accept Him. They treated His mercy with insult and**
259 **contempt, and at length they put to death Him who came**
260 **for the purpose of giving them life. Did our Lord turn from**
261 **the fallen race because of this? Though your efforts for good**
262 **have been unsuccessful ninety-nine times, and you received**
263 **only insult, reproach, and hate, yet if the one-hundredth time**
264 **proves a success, and one soul is saved, oh, what a victory is**
265 **achieved!** One soul wrenched from Satan’s grasp, one soul
266 benefited, one soul encouraged. This will a thousand times
267 repay you for all your efforts. To you will Jesus say: “Inasmuch
268 as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren,
269 ye have done it unto Me.” Should we not gladly do all we can
270 to imitate the life of our divine Lord? Many shrink at the idea
271 of making any sacrifice for others’ good. They are not willing
272 to suffer for the sake of helping others. They flatter themselves
273 that it is not required of them to disadvantage themselves for
274 the benefit of others. To such we say: Jesus is our example.
275 {2T 31.2}