



*The Christian Spirit which is essential to the triumph of
the Kingdom of God :*

A

DISCOURSE

DELIVERED AT THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY,

IN LONDON, 23^d JUNE, 1824.

AND PUBLISHED AT THEIR REQUEST.

BY CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON.

LONDON :

B. J. HOLDSWORTH, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD; W. WHITTEMORE,
62, T. HAMILTON, 33, PATERNOSTER ROW; J. OFFOR, 44, NEWGATE
STREET: WAUGH AND INNES; W. OLIPHANT; H. S. BAYNES;
OLIVER AND BOYD, EDINBURGH: CHALMERS AND COLLINS, GLASGOW.

1824.

Price One Shilling.

this world, with all the glories of his own kingdom in contrast, and then he says—If for this thou wilt deny thyself, all shall be thine. “For there is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God’s sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.”

But if the commencement of every stage of our undertaking demands a spirit of self-abasement; and self-denial is not less necessary to successful progress; it is impossible with acceptance to close or to review our work, without the exercise of self-annihilation. Not that little depends on human action; it is a link in the chain of means; and, viewed as an instrument, is of great and vital importance. Nor should the Christian, or the Christian church, be satisfied but with the most enlarged views. God has set no bounds to human exertion, and there is nothing presumptuous in that language: “I can do all things, through Christ, which strengtheneth me.” Very naturally may you here be reminded of one of your own brethren, who said, “*Expect great things,*”—“*Attempt great things;*” but I am not acquainted with any man, or any minister now alive, whose language and conduct have so uniformly explained to us, that neither great expectations are to be indulged, nor great things accomplished, in any other spirit than that of self-annihilation.

In confirmation of this idea, with which the word of God abounds, I surely need not detain you. There was, however, one man, who, in his day, carried human exertion to an extent perhaps