

warning of the Apostle Paul to which I referred last time, in 1 Cor. 9:27. He said, I keep my body under and bring it into subjection, lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." He did not mean that we can be lost if we truly believe in Christ. But we can be terribly disappointed/ We can be a terrible/~~a~~ failure in the Lord's work if we do not constantly check ourselves and appraise ourselves in this regard, to be sure that we are truly putting Him first. That was small a. Now small b.

b. We should appraise ourselves regarding (I would say) extensive knowledge of the Bible. The ignorance of the Bible today among the American people generally is almost unbelievable. Among our educated classes it is amazing how little people know who are well informed on many other subjects. How very little so ~~many of them~~ know about the Bible. But there is no excuse for the Christian worker not having an extensive knowledge of the Bible. To know the Bible thoroughly will take your whole life. It is a Book the depths of which are beyond anyone's plumbing in a lifetime. But the more we dig into the Bible for our ~~a~~ knowledge, for our own growth in grace, for preparing ourselves for handling problems that arise, the better it is for us. Now there is a tendency in many theological seminaries of 50 ~~years~~ years ago to put their stress entirely, or at least so it seemed to some, on exegesis in great detail of a few passages of the Scripture and to have very little knowledge of the rest of the Bible. And so there arose a large movement for what they called the English Bible. We want the English Bible, they said. Not a lot of study of Hebrew or ~~g~~reek but the English Bible. Now the English Bible is no more sacred than the German Bible or the Gaelic Bible. My grandmother ~~was~~ always look everything up in the Gaelic Bible in order to be sure whether it was dependable or not. I think our English translations are better than the Gaelic translations, but there's only one original and yet the fact remains I think that the reason people say this is not that they mean that they think English is better than the original,