

But did I remain in this happy state? Did I break off immediately from all my former habits, and never again have cause to mourn over broken resolutions? Ah, my young friend, I must confess I found the force of habit sometimes stronger within my heart than the power of grace; but in one thing I never wavered. I was now a repenting sinner, whereas I had before been an indifferent sinner. In the strength of God I laboured to overcome all remaining evil within me. Sometimes *I* conquered, and sometimes *Satan* prevailed; yet I have never given up the warfare, although I have learned that the work of years cannot be undone in a moment—that as “Rome was not built in a day,” so the character, that immortal part of man, can only be strengthened and built up by constant perseverance and self-examination, begun and carried on in the soul by the grace of God. I labour hopefully now, feeling assured that they who labour and thirst after a godly life shall be satisfied.

