

our share of the responsibility incurred by the Saviour's last words—“ All power is Mine in earth and heaven : Go ! and make disciples of all nations, and Lo ! I am with you always ” :—whether that “ share ” be in prayer and contribution or in personal service ?

In the Saviour's parable of the excuses in Luke xiv. 15-24 we read that the banquet prepared by the king was despised by those first invited : this doubtless has a primary reference to the Jews : they refusing, notice how the glad tidings of God's grace is to be pressed upon the Gentiles. The Lord in His last word said, “ Go ! ” but here it is “ *Go out quickly* into the streets and lanes and bring in hither,” and “ *Go out* into the highways and hedges and *compel* them to come in.” Stronger language could not be used to show the urgency of the case ; it is a matter of life and death—nay, of eternal life and eternal death, for remember it is expressly stated in Acts iv. 8-12 that Peter was filled with the Holy Ghost when he said, “ Neither is there salvation in any other ; for there is *none other Name* under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.”

In the Empire of China “ a great door and effectual ” has been “ opened of the Lord.” Here, for instance, within a radius of 100 miles of Ping-yang-fu, in the province of Shan-si, twenty men could at once be disposed of, stations are actually *waiting* for them, and over large tracts of China the demand is equally great, and the *need* far greater. For example : in the province south of this—Honan—there are 15,000,000 souls and only two workers. These two young men within a year of reaching China, secured a footing for themselves there, and amongst the inquirers who have become interested in the Gospel there are at least six cases in which they are hopeful of true conversion.

On the west, in Shen-si, one of our party left the only station in that province in order to come to Ping-yang-fu ; he was a month in completing his journey ; he did not pass a single mission station : though this is so, the province is quite *open* to the Gospel, and the station at Han-chung, in the west of the province, is a most flourishing one, the natives there having, with funds subscribed entirely by themselves, built two mission chapels. In most parts of China it is safe, easy and profitable to be quite amongst the people : before we had been out a year, the majority of us had each been alone among the people for periods of a month and more. The country is open, the people are ready for the Gospel.

But, brethren, the best of all is this:—God wills it—wills that they should hear the Gospel, believe the Gospel, and do honor to the Gospel. “ Let us go up at once,” as of old Caleb and Joshua said, for trusting in