

shimmering profession and what remains? Nineteenth century profession looks ill in the light of such disobedience and neglect; for no Christian can count himself out of this enterprise.

Christianity means, if it means anything, submission to Christ, so that unless we are ready to belie our profession we must confess that we are under *obligation* to act out His divine command. Is it a worldly obligation? Then men of the world who care for their good name, put time, fortune, talents, everything forward to clear themselves. Is this less important? It is inconceivably more important; while these centuries behind of awful neglect should so grieve and humiliate us, that we could and would have no peace until the reproach were cleared away.

We must lift this obligation, for also it is indeed an obligation—it is verily a command. A *command*! Write that word done to our shame—the love of Christ should have constrained us to respond to the cry of the perishing. An *unfulfilled* command! Alas, this should be the last indictment—it is heavy enough, crushingly heavy. But no, it is not the last nor the heaviest! Hardest, saddest of all is it, that very, very few have any serious intention of fulfilling this commission. Away with the thought! Up, up, men of God! We must lift this obligation, for what can our time mean if not given for this purpose? What can our wealth mean if not gathered for Christ? When Italy was struggling into liberty, men put their fortunes and lives into the struggle, and shall not we, saved by the blood of Christ,—shall we not, when a world is struggling into the light, consecrate all that we have? We must do it! God forbid that we should love our own better than Christ! That we should consider anything enough for him short of all that we have! That we should know leisure or rest or gladness until we can say this commission is fulfilled!

*And it can be done.* It is very possible—we can draw on the Commissioner to the full extent of our needs. For the Commission is prefaced with the announcement, "All power is given to me in heaven and on earth." Nay, it would not be a commission were it impossible. It can be