

it be voiced in all its terrible reality, that continued refrain, "unfulfilled," "*unfulfilled*," "UNFULFILLED," would crush us utterly. And yet this dumb cry is going up to heaven from teeming cities, from populous countries, from whole continents even, and the cry has been gathering in intensity, as it has broken its way through the centuries, until it has grown so importunate, so urgently pressing that we dare not disregard it longer.

Think of the privileges of the ages, inherited by this generation, and it becomes a very serious matter, this confession of disregard of the commission of the Lord Jesus. For there has been shown a positive disregard in this matter, inasmuch as—hear 'O Heavens, and give ear, O earth' to this appalling confession—that *not even the idea of fulfilling this commission has been entertained!* NOR IS IT SERIOUSLY ENTERTAINED TO-DAY!!

Verily, verily, it is not enough, those centuries of neglect—other centuries must be added to them! For it cannot be maintained for a moment that the Christian people of the present generation seriously entertain the idea of carrying out this Divine Commission—they have no intention of doing so. Think you, in that case, they would go about it so indifferently, and attempt it with such meagre means? Send *one* lone worker to half a million souls, and then pray—"Let Thy Kingdom come!" This is nigh unto mocking. Men of the world do not so act. When *they* plan any great enterprise, engineers forthwith get out the plans, estimate the cost, the time, and everything relating to it.

But mark the grand indifference to the sublimest of undertakings. A son would plunge into it but the father restrains him—a daughter hears the voice but the mother drowns it—a brilliant young graduate offers, but his professors hold him back—a pastor offers, but we cannot spare him—the fever seizes the colleges, and the young men begin to pledge themselves, but an influential organ of the denomination cries out against it! And this for Christ! "Go," says the risen Christ, but Christians cry out, "Stay!" The commission is *not* being fulfilled. It is being reversed—read backward—acted backward. Tear off the