

than a score of Presbyterians, constituting the sole working force to bring those millions to the knowledge of God ; and yet Siam has single cities with 200,000 inhabitants where there is not one mission station or even evangelist ; and such things as this are true after more than eighteen centuries of Christian history !

The wide area of unoccupied territory needs not dismay us. Africa and Asia together embrace less than 26,000,000 square miles, only about *twelve or thirteen times as much* as the Persian Empire in the days of Ahasuerus. If in those days the royal proclamation could be carried through the imperial dominions in nine months, what is to hinder our bearing the gospel message through these two continents in nine years ? With all our modern facilities and instrumentalities we could certainly cover a territory twelve times as large in a period twelve times as long !

This thought of a possible proclamation of the Word of life to every living creature *before this century closes*, we have sought to trumpet forth by tongue and pen for twenty years ; and it has never yet been shown to be either impossible or impracticable. It *can* be done ; it *ought* to be done ; it *MUST* be done. We must cross this Jordan of Selfishness and roll away this reproach of neglect at the Gilgal of a new consecration. We must resolutely march around Jericho and blow the gospel trumpet. Let men deride the fewness of our missionary band, and the foolishness of preaching. Let pagan priests and heathen philosophers ridicule the credulous faith that expects to see ancient systems fall before the peal of a Jubilee trump. God's word is pledged. "Lo, I am with you alway." The Church of Christ has but to undertake this work, in the energy of the Spirit and with the enterprise of a true consecration, and wonders will follow to which even Pentecost was but a prelude and precursor. Yes, this King's business requires haste. Behind that command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," there stands the majesty of imperial *authority*. Such authority is itself urgency. He obeys not the King who does not move promptly, immediately. Celerity of movement is a necessary part of loyalty and fidelity. To move tardily at the King's command is next to open treason.

The *opportunity* calls for haste. God sets before the Church an open door, great and effectual. While the command rings in our ears, "Go ye" ! lo, silently but suddenly the iron gates of intolerance and ignorance, bigotry and superstition, swing open as of their own accord. Obstacles that for a thousand years have stood like walls of adamant quickly disappear. But what is thus *our* opportune hour is also *Satan's*, and he appreciates and improves it, if we do not. Forward into these new openings he pushes his obedient servants, with all their various agencies and instruments of destruction. He sends his emissaries to preach his anti-gospel and carry on his crusade of infidelity and