

it is Jesus the Saviour who has commanded you to keep the bulwarks of His Church for Him.

In venturing to offer some advice in regard to our *present dangers*, and the consolations which we may gather from the Divine Word, and from past history and experience, I would say they all point to the one great source of hope, "Hold thee still in the Lord, and abide patiently upon Him"; "O tarry thou the Lord's leisure; be strong and He shall comfort thine heart." And I make this one observation at the outset, that when the church ship seemed in greatest peril, the Master took no heed of the winds and waves without, He slept in godlike security. The only danger He referred to was the Apostles' want of faith, and He said, "Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?" From which we learn this great lesson, that our chief dangers come from within ourselves, not from without.

Bear with me while I briefly point out some of these dangers. May we not say that *want of holiness* is certainly the first? As a body, the clergy and laity of our Church may perhaps compare favorably with some other Christians, but how far has the spirit of the age insensibly led us all away from the Apostolic standard? Are we the Epistles of Christ, known and read of all men? Are we not only moderate, honest and respectable, but unworldly, unselfish, and, so to speak, enamoured of our duties? In the work of our holy calling, have we all the same untiring energy which the merchant, the lawyer, and the politician display in their several pursuits? Do our lives reflect the image of our prayers? Are we often in communion with God? Do love and purity, meekness and uncompromising fidelity shine in all our ways, or is there anything of mere professional talk to be heard among us? Do we busy ourselves chiefly with the fussy, superficial activities of the religious