

Begin on this day of triumph. It is a triumphant day when a missionary takes leave of home, and breaks some earthly tie, and is weaned something more from this short life. Rejoice with us, that we are counted worthy of the honour given us; and, with the Church, that at the Saviour's bidding, and for Him, She can go forth, plant the Cross, and spread the tidings of salvation. Stand around us, and sympathize with our happy lot, and with our joy.

We ask your prayers, not only because it is your appointed part; but because of the importance of the work, and the weakness of the instruments employed in it.

How can the importance of the work of saving souls be over-estimated? What is all the world, which is to pass away, compared with one immortal soul, that is to live on for ever and ever? The whole result is of God. Paul may plant, and Apollos water, but God gives the increase. To Him, then, must supplication ascend, that He may bless and prosper the undertaking—that He may so order events, as that His Word may have free course, and be glorified, and that His Church may be established on high, and all nations be gathered into it.

How much too do we, the weak instruments, need the Spirit of God in our hearts! If we lack the Spirit of Christ we are none of His, and must by our cold example impair the blessed work. Our sufficiency is of God alone, through whom only can we be made able ministers of the New Testament. From above must we look for that love of souls, without which no pastor's labour can be successful. In the words of an honoured Missionary must we ever say, "I long to be as a flame of fire, continually glowing in the divine service, setting forth Christ's kingdom to my latest, my dying hour."

We need the gift of wisdom, that we may be wise master builders. There will be strange trials in the task we are sent to do, calling for special wisdom, forbearance, and charity; while, at the same time, we must not shun to