

thousands of years and are unexhausted by time. They have cleansed the foulest lepers ; they have rescued the degraded prodigal in the far country ; they have cast out devils ; they have lifted up those most deeply lost in sin and are unexhausted by the character as well as by the numbers saved. And in Jesus Christ all fulness dwells, now as then. In him is "enough for each, enough for all, enough forever more." The giving out of his fulness does not diminish it. His resources are infinite and eternal. And I certify to every one who hears me that no one will be lost for want of grace or power on the Savior's part.

And what is true of Christ's giving, is true of ours also. The giving forth of the bread of life does not exhaust it. The more we labor and pray and give, the richer we become. This is true of the individual, true of the Church and true of the Christian nation. "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth ; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

Friends of God ; see, then, our Mission : "Give ye them to eat." We cannot get away from this. "Necessity is laid upon us" We are debtors to both Jew and Greek. It is the King's command : "Feed these starving multitudes." It is the Royal mandate : "Give ye them to eat." It is the question from the throne : "What are you doing for Christ?" Thousands around you are starving and dying "Give ye them to eat." I know what you are thinking :—"Lord it is little I can do or offer." "Bring them to me" says Christ, "I will make them enough." Only let him bless the act or offering and it will be enough. When will we learn that "Our sufficiency is of God." Bring all and lay it at His feet and he will multiply it in the bringing and in the taking away. Did you notice that, in the miracle we have been studying, part of the provision was a *natural* product—the fishes, and part of it was *artificial*—the bread. So, we have gifts that are natural and gifts that are acquired. Let both be devoted to His service ; for all we have and all we can get will be but a small return for all that that Savior has done for us.

The secret of all our leanness is, I am persuaded, the very slight sense of *personal responsibility* felt by the mass of professing Christians. There is a vast amount of popery among Protestants. They try to do their religion by proxy. They like the plan of putting it all on the shoulders of minister or Session. Priestism is dear to the average man. God's truth is that a portion of the honor and responsibility of religion in this world devolves on every professing Christian, just as in an army, a portion of the honor of his country's flag is committed to every soldier in the ranks. In almost every congregation in the land, that sense of personal responsibility to make direct efforts for the common cause is felt by the few ; by the mass it is utterly disregarded or forgotten. And yet, the advancement of God's kingdom in