

Sympathy for heathen men where there is no sympathy for our own countrymen is spurious. The heart that is right is fired with zeal and love for both, each in proportion to the claims they present. In this country we have in providence a work assigned us. We make no invidious distinctions between ourselves and others. There is, notwithstanding the great zeal and success of some other denominations, a place to occupy and a work for us to do as a denomination. Those of our faith and order who have settled in this new land are as sheep in the wilderness to be looked after, while many who have no attainment of a special character, through indifference to religion altogether, are to be sought out and not forsaken. Surely our distinctive principles are not so foreign to the spirit of inquiry and freedom in the country as to lead us to the conviction that our task is hopeless? We have faith in the future, still we must be prepared for continued toil, it requires "a pull, a long pull, and a pull altogether," to secure ultimate success. An increase of the actual number of our denomination appears in the last census; the growth, however, when compared with the expansion of popular denominations, is supposed by some to show that at the same ratio a hundred years will witness our extinction in the land. If this calculation is correct, let us find in it an argument for redoubled zeal in diffusing truth. Especially let us put forth increased effort for the evangelization of those who as yet know not the way of salvation.

A question arises, are we employing all the instrumentality we might in spreading the knowledge of God? It is possible to be kept back from a good work by a sense of weakness and numerous difficulties. Should it be so, let us begin to make a trial of the use of all possible power, in the employment of all available agency. God's instruments are often feeble and despised, make a beginning and God can make strong.

There is a danger of resting satisfied with what may seem obedience to our Master. We ought to do all the will of Him whom we serve. Faithfully and gloriously was the commencement made in Jerusalem, which issued in the addition of thousands to the church. The aspect of duty however changes. It is not for us to stereotype methods and lines of action. For a time the work in Jerusalem held its own place; it would seem, however, as if an undue attachment to the spot was formed, a limitation of action displeasing to the Lord. Then the sword of persecution was unsheathed and drove forth many, and they that were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. On the bosom of the storm the seed was carried to distant spots. Let us learn to interpret events which bear on our work.

The necessity of prosecuting what God gives us to do in a spirit of dependence on his aid should be deeply graven on our hearts. Trust in God is a grand element of success. Any work on which He frowns shall come to nought. The heaven defying Babel-tower may raise its battlements to the skies, but the builders will be scattered in confusion. This great work then of diffusing the knowledge of salvation is to be undertaken and continued in, looking for the promise of the Spirit. "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be embued with power from on high." "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth.