

say, is to "spread Scriptural holiness through the land." We have not done that yet. We have not done it in the big towns, and in the cities; we have not even done it in the villages. There is therefore a great work for us to do. The world needs Methodism to-day as much as ever it did. God forbid that I should speak one word that would pain the mind of any member of another Church, but I cannot look out on some of the other Churches without deep anxiety and fear. I look in one direction, and see Popery throwing its withering blight upon the fairest and the best. I look in another direction, and I see Socinianism sapping the very life and vigour of the Church. And when I see other Churches divided and distracted, and remember that the Church is the only organization that God has called into existence in order that souls may be won for Christ and heaven, I see that there is need of Methodism, and that there is a great work for her to do.

Then what is our duty? Certainly to be prepared for the work. And how better can we be prepared for the work than by catching the spirit, and imitating the example, of our fathers? We boast that we are Methodists. Take care that men see the family likeness. It is said of Alexander the Great that he had in his army a man who was reported to him as being a coward, and whose name was Alexander. The Emperor went to him one day, and said, "Is thy name Alexander?" The man said it was; whereupon the Emperor said, "Then thou must either change thy name, or change thy conduct." And so I would whisper to some, change your name, or change your conduct. I ask again—Is there a family likeness in you? Are you remarkable for your simple, strong faith? The fathers are gone, but the promises remain, can we grasp them as our fathers did? When God speaks the word, can we "laugh at impossibilities, and cry it shall be done"? Put the question to yourselves—Have I the