

loftiest heights, the most secret depths, the endless ever-varying reaches of His own manifold wisdom. This was "the purpose of the ages which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord." Well might the Apostle, on giving utterance to so all embracing a thought, burst out into the exalted prayer that follows,—that God would grant unto christians to enter into this great mystery, to take in "the breadth, and length, and depth, and height," and so be "filled unto all the fulness of God!"

Into this far-reaching passage, I do not purpose now further to enter, than to lay it down as the foundation-principle on which we, who are in any sense builders in God's House, ought ever consciously to be building.

Everything in and about the Church *now*, as well as forever, is appointed to be, to the Holy Angels a means of growth in the knowledge of God's manifold wisdom: this ought to be the ground-thought with christians in all their working for the Church. There can be no detail too trifling to be ordered by it, which bears any relation to that glorious Temple, which no less in the building of it than in its perfection and everlasting continuance is to serve so great a purpose.

And it is to such builders that I am appointed to speak to-day. We are met, both laity and clergy, here this week, as we meet from year to year, to take counsel together respecting that work, and to encourage and strengthen one another's hands in doing it.

And this year especially is this our consultation important when the synod of our Province has called on us to take a new departure in the work of missions. The Church in Canada herself in her corporate capacity has once again moved in this matter of missions, and calls on us to move. She reminds us of a very