

will remain still unsaved and the travail of the Redeemer's soul still unsatisfied. He should, therefore, consider fairly and fully the question:

Does God demand of the Church that she should give the Gospel to all the world *now*, in this present generation to which we belong, which we constitute, and whose responsibilities are ours? That is the first question for the preacher to answer.

In answering it, he will need to study diligently the teaching of the Word of God and to read with broad sweep of vision the signs of the times. He will find by such study and reading, if we mistake not, that, as surely as all Scripture and all providences pointed to the time when the light of the first morning sun shone upon that cradle in Bethlehem as "the fulness of times" for the incarnation, so now the light of every morning sun as it glances along the mountain-peaks from east to west around the globe points to "the fulness of times" for the world's completed redemption.

And when he has learned the true answer to that question, the preacher's commission requires that he should see to it that the whole truth in the matter should be made known to the Church, and that the Church be roused, as with trumpet-call from God, to consider and take up the mighty and glorious task and complete it. That is the part of his commission that is *new* and for the living present. For that, in this materialistic and sordid age, he will need the baptism of the Holy Ghost and the "tongues of fire."

If the question is asked, What does the great commission require of the preacher at the present day? the unhesitating answer must be:

*That he should be a leader of the Church in immediately evangelizing the world.*

Let the preacher understand, then, and give himself to making all Christendom understand, that God has providentially taken away all the obstacles and excuses that have in the past delayed the work of evangelizing the world; that the Church stands to-day in the presence of Him who gave her the commission, without shadow of excuse or pretext for further delay, and that if the work is not done at once the Church will be responsible for not doing it.

In doing this he will need to make clear as sunlight the providential drift of recent years, and the resulting situation and duty. The Church needs, first of all, to have light on these subjects. She must be made to see that God has set the task of the world's evangelization right before her, and be forced to feel that her obligation is immediate and imperative.

The preacher must make it clear that God has removed the old natural and governmental barriers that stood in the way of missions, and opened all the world to them; that He has brought Protestant Christendom to the front and made it the dominant power in the world; that He has revealed to the Protestant nations the swift and