

Finally, my dear Fellow-labourers, let us act with fresh courage and with stronger faith in the blessed work to which God has called us. Our past labours are as nothing, and are unworthy of us as favoured ourselves with the Divine word; and especially if we know the salvation and the riches it contains. There is still much to be done around us, whilst besides, the heathen, by millions, in their many tongues, cry aloud to us for the Bible. Oh then, let us all awake from our lethargy, for our labours hitherto are in truth not worthy of a better name, considering the greatness and eternal magnitude of our cause, and the honour which God has conferred on us to be his almoners of this word of life to the whole mass of our fellow-creatures. The Bible Society cause, considering its nature, is yet but poorly supported by the Christian community. The Parent Institution, after all, receives but a scanty contribution from all denominations of Christians, and from all its Auxiliaries. Its income last year, which is the largest of all, is £111,449 13s. 1d.; but only about one half of this consists of *free contributions*, the rest arising from the sale of the Scriptures. It is the people of England chiefly who raise this sum. We here in these Provinces are much more favoured with means than is the mass of the English population who raise this Bible money. Let us not be outdone by them in this good work: let us contribute our full proportion to the general fund, in accordance with our population and our means, and let us labour also to go before them in well-doing. The more we labour the more we shall reap in every way, both as regards our temporal and our eternal interests. I pray the Lord to direct and prosper you in your Bible labours. You have done nobly: act more nobly still. May the Spirit of the Lord be with you all, collectively and individually.

I remain, my dear Friends, very truly yours,

JAMES THOMSON.