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✱ OUR PRESENT DUTY! ✱

“THE moment which we are now living is perhaps the most critical moment there ever has been in the history of the non-Christian races—most significant and weighty upon their fate and their future. The European races have obtained the control of nearly the whole world. Our material civilization is permeating every part of the world, and telling as never before on every one of the non-Christian races. It is transforming their conditions of life. They are being exploited, and their old organization and civilization are being completely broken down. Under this shock not only the material conditions of their life, but also their traditions and beliefs, their old customs, and everything that was associated with and depended on their beliefs and customs is rapidly crumbling away.

“What I want to put up to you is the supreme importance at this moment of our doing what we can to fill that void which we have made. This is the time for us to give them the one supremest gift the world has ever received, and in which we believe the safety and future hope of the world lie—a knowledge of the life and the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are called to seize this critical moment, this favorable moment, to provide them with the means and the basis of life to take the place of that which has crumbled from beneath them. Let Christianity go to them not as a destroying force, not as being the mere profession of those who are grasping their land and trying to turn to account their labor; let it go as a beneficent power which is to fill their souls with new thoughts and new hopes, which is to be a link between them and us, a link between all the races of mankind of whatever blood or speech or color, and which is to teach them that they and we are all the children of the one Father in heaven.”—Hon. J. Bryce.