

some wool, and the Lord answers by sending down a heavy dew upon it. "Now," he says, "I know that the Lord is with me." Then he goes and collects a number of people together, but only selects about three hundred from them, all those who lap the water from the brook like dogs. He goes forth with a handful of men out of the camp, and gives only a trumpet, a lamp, and a pitcher to each one of them. So he leads them on against the Midianites. The power was not in the pitcher, nor in the lamp, nor in the trumpet, but in God; and that night the enemy was scattered. You may look all through the Bible, but wherever God has been with his people he has defeated their enemies. May the Lord defeat the armies of Satan here.

You will find that Paul, when he went to Italy, and was shipwrecked, was met by a few brethren, who went about fifty miles to meet him; yet, when he came to stand before Nero, they all left him; none stood by him then. He stood before Nero, and talked to him about the resurrection, and about the crucified Redeemer, and God Almighty put a muzzle upon Nero. He has got power to put a muzzle upon Satan, who goeth about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Bless God, there is power in his name to defeat even Satan himself.

Our text is a prayer often offered, "Go, and the Lord be with you." Now, in the coal-mining districts, it is often heard when the men go out in the morning, and leave their wives and children, the husband will say, "Good morning," and the wife and children reply, "The Lord be with you." I am sure if God watches over his people anywhere, he needs to protect them down in coal-pits. There are not many back doors to run out at there. And I remember it too, as the last dying words of my mother—"The Lord be with you, my lad! The Lord bless you!" Is it not the dying prayer of many a mother? I have seen many a mother stand upon the pier head at Liverpool, and say, "The Lord be with you!" when lads were about to leave this land to go into far distant countries. I knew a widow woman who was left with two children, a girl and a boy, to provide for. Her little boy was employed in an office, and used to get three shillings and sixpence or four shillings a week. But the mother had very