

such a country as this, by mercenary motives, but there may be secondary motives at work even here, which I will not stop to enumerate, believing gladly that you, at any rate, who are met together here to-day to receive a new and enlarged commission, are actuated by a sincere and singleminded purpose, and feel it your privilege, as it is your duty, to live for the one purpose of winning souls to CHRIST.

In order then to execute this purpose effectually (for there can be no good effect wrought where the Divine blessing is withheld) are you, are we all, fully persuaded that we have a full right to claim as ours the *promised blessing*, "Lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world?"* How any can go forth to labour in the LORD's vineyard who have any shadow of doubt whether they have been lawfully called and sent by Him, how any can take upon him the care of the flock who is not appointed to the charge by the Good Shepherd, or those whom He commissioned to "go and (teach or) make disciples of all nations," how any one can go forth as a herald of the glad tidings of salvation or as an ambassador of peace, who has any doubt of the patents under which he acts, it is hard to tell. Without a full assurance of the soundness of our title, how can we act with confidence of success?

Let us, therefore, while we are far, very far, from despising the inward call of the HOLY SPIRIT actuating our hearts, (the necessity of which the Church has placed as a bar which must be lifted ere any entrance at all can be gained to the Ministry of the Church), thank God that ours is no disputable title, but is derived confessedly from the one Great Sender, through His Apostles. Let us, I say, *feel that we have* this commission, let us most highly prize it: let it be the spring of all our energies that we are indeed labouring with the promise of CHRIST's blessing. But let

* Matt. xxviii. 20.