

This grand mission He knows she cannot perform without His constant guidance and aid. Paul plants, Apollos waters, but He giveth the increase. Her prayers and efforts are effectual just in proportion as they are made so by the power and grace of the ever present Divinity. For her comfort therefore, and encouragement, He has told her, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Were He to forget her, her mission must prove a tremendous failure, but as readily may we expect Him to forget the perfections of His own being or the purposes of His own heart, as to fail of remembering the interests of His own dear church. In all her afflictions He is afflicted, and the angel of His presence is constantly by her side to give efficiency to her ministrations, to answer her requests, and to crown her labors with triumphant success.

In conclusion, let us see if this central thought of our text has not been beautifully illustrated and confirmed in the history of this church. Fifty years ago seven members were organised here as the Granville Street Baptist Church. This was done, we doubt not, under the guidance of Him who says, "yet will I not forget thee." Has He forgotten this branch of His spiritual household? Let your history answer. The first seven have all gone to their reward, many of their successors in the faith have also gone up higher. Some dissatisfied ones have joined other communions; others have left to join churches of the same faith, in the Dominion, in the United States, in England and elsewhere; and some to join churches of the same order, and shed the light of truth in other sections of the city. So that the original church has become not only a mother, but a grandmother; and still you are strong in numbers and in faith, giving glory to God. Surely the care of your covenant God and Saviour over you has been unremitting and abiding.