

immeasurable mass of ignorance and superstition and moral corruption which overspreads the heathen world, the human mind by sin is so darkened, the heart is so stained and scarred, the will is so perverse, that the same invincible forces are required which in ancient days opened blind eyes, cleansed lepers, stilled the winds and waves, and brought dead Lazarus forth from the tomb. In such a desperate case there is no help or hope but in resorting to Him for whom nothing is too hard. It were foolish and insane to attempt the regeneration of Utah, or Mexico, or India, or Japan, except in the name of the Lord of Hosts, and in firm reliance on the sweet promise, "My word shall not return unto me void."

3. *The man who sees.* Perceives clearly things unseen and invisible to most. Too many walk habitually only in that carnal wisdom and prudence from which the best things of the kingdom are hopelessly hidden. Fear and unbelief are stone blind; at least have eyes only for difficulty and danger. To the soul sluggard there is always a lion in the street. At first Elisha's servant beheld only the Syrian host encompassing the city, but at the prayer of the prophet his eyes were opened, and then he saw that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. A sharp vision for heavenly helps is an indispensable part of a missionary's furnishing, for without it he cannot attain unto that faith "which treads on impossibilities," and hesitates not to venture out at God's command, not knowing whither, or caring to know. Only this celestial sight is able to discover in the foundation and scaffolding the dust and din of the building process, the sure prophecy of the fair temple in due season to stand complete, or in the actual and external of the individual, of society, or of the church to-day, the divine ideal steadily advancing, and some time without fail to be revealed. Not to see things invisible is to have slight call to be a standard-bearer in the Lord's host.

4. *The man who waits.* Or, is divinely patient, because confident in God and hopeful, sure that righteousness sits upon the throne. "He that believeth shall not make haste." Our Lord was strangely calm, was never excited or in a hurry; and there is great need that His servants keep cool and preserve their equanimity, that the judgment be not seriously deranged by the sudden and fierce onset of some impetuous emotion. It is so easy to fret because of evil-doers, and to wax impatient because the wheels of the kingdom move so slowly. There is constant call for that gospel temperance which is continence or self-control. Time is indispensable in healing inveterate evils. Good institutions grow only by slight increments. And the over-fiercy is likely to work even greater mischief than the sluggard. To speak unwisely and rashly may be worse than not to speak at all. One needs to master the situation and thoroughly to understand the facts in the case—needs to gain a place in the confidence and esteem of men before he is in a