

to reach people with the message of the Gospel and to win them to the knowledge of Christ. Now many people when they think of Christianity think immediately of the sovereignty of God, when they think of Presbyterianism. And of course, this is something which the Presbyterian Church has stressed in opposition to certain denominations which deny certain aspects of this, such as the Lutheran Church, which receded very far from the position that Luther took. We hold that God has determined from all eternity those who will believe in Jesus Christ. We hold that God has determined this and that all ^{for} whom Christ died will be saved, but no human being knows who they are. You ~~must~~ ^{may} speak to someone about the Lord Jesus Christ and ~~that~~ he may come immediately to ~~Jesus~~ Christ and be saved, and in another case you may speak fifty times and on the fifty-first attempt he may be saved. We have no way of knowing. The Lord knows who are His. But the Lord has given us the Gospel of salvation and the responsibility to make it known to just as many as ~~we~~ ^{we} can. Not ~~men~~ ^{known} like Francis (Xavier) ~~who~~ ^{who} ~~was~~, one of the two leaders of the early Jesuits/went out into India and ~~was~~ ^{in sin} so burdened with the multitudes dying ^{in sin} that he carried a bowl of holy water and simply threw it around, hoping that it would land on people's heads and they would be saved. But I ^{fear} ~~do~~ that some of us fall into a similar error when we think that everybody in America has heard the Gospel. They have heard it; we shouldn't worry about them. You cannot say that a man has truly heard the Gospel as long as that man is living. God giveth the responsibility of reaching them with the Gospel and we have no right to say when a person is hopeless. God works in a mysterious way His wonders to perform. He knows from the beginning those ~~that~~ ^{who} are His. He holds all things in His hand but he has not revealed them to us. He has given us the duty and the responsibility. And this is ~~not simply~~ a duty and a responsibility not simply of a clerical class; it is the responsibility of every Christian. Every Christian has a calling. Every Christian's calling is to study the Scripture and to learn the Word of God, to grow in grace and ~~and~~ in the knowledge of the Lord, to make the Word of God known to others and reach them for Christ. That is the calling of every Christian, not just of a clerical class. ~~Persons who~~ ^{certain ones} are approved by their associates as worthy of being set aside to give their whole time to this and to receive their support for doing this.

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