

utterly disheartened most men are an example which you should emulate and which you may greatly need in the coming days.

The other witness of whom I am thinking especially is a man whose life in many ways was different from that of Athanasius. Athanasius was a leader in a settled Christian community. This man was one who resolved not to build upon another's foundation, but to carry the truth where it was otherwise unknown. Boniface was an Englishman who left England to carry the Gospel into the forests of Germany. He wandered through regions which were regarded by his contemporaries as peopled by hostile barbarians. Against the opposition of heathen ignorance and malice he fearlessly declared the Gospel of Christ and established centers of Christian truth all through northern Germany. I like to think of two memorable occasions when Boniface stood beneath the sacred oak which was worshipped by one of the fiercest of the tribes to whom he had come. He declared the Gospel to them and preached it until by the power of God many of them had come to question their heathen religion and to be upon the point of accepting Christianity but they still feared the spirits which they saw personified in the great oak tree. Boniface decided to cut down this tree. In the face of the fanaticism which might easily have led to a martyrdom he hewed down the tree and destroyed the symbol of their superstitious worship. You will be called upon to face symbols of Paganism both outside the church and within the church. You will face great hostility when you begin to lay your hand on these things which are so sacred in the eyes of many that they hide from their vision the abiding realities. May you have the courage like Boniface to destroy whatever is contrary to the Word of God. Some of you are to preach the gospel in foreign lands. Others are to be ministers in this country. Wherever you are, whether here or abroad, may you have the spirit of Boniface with his determination to present the truth to those who do not know it. May you never be content to explain the Word of God to those who hear it willingly or to fill an appointed place in an established society but may you be an ambassador for Christ, an